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REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

Travels in Greece and Turkey; being the Second Part of Excursions in the Mediterranean. By Major Sir Granville Temple, Bart. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1836. Saunders and Oiley.

SIR GRANVILLE TEMPLE sailed in the *Gosamer yacht*, of seventy-two tons, from Naples, in February 1834, accompanied by two friends; and his journal is just such a production as well befit the name and style of the vessel. As a *Gossamer*, it is light, airy, and elegant; as a Yacht, pleasant, and a happy compound of the useful and agreeable—not a ship of burden, nor a ship of war, but a nice skimming thing, touching here and there *ad libitum*, and bringing away whatever appeared worthy of transport.

The first notices of our author are directed to the Isles of Greece; and we shall detach a few of them to exemplify his work, and, at the same time, communicate some of the latest and most interesting points of information to our readers. We commence at Nauplia.

"Nauplia has quite recovered from the state of ruin it was lately reduced to. Numerous good houses have been built, and the streets are paved or Macadamised. There are two squares, one of which contains the barracks, a large Venetian building; and the other, the king's palace, if such a term can be applied to a small private house, and the main guard. The streets bear an odd mixture of Greek and Bavarian names, which are written in the characters of both languages. All the minarets of the mosques have been stupidly pulled down, by which the town is deprived both of graceful ornaments and of good belfries. A Turkish bath, and some Turkish fountains, have unaccountably been spared by the barbarians. The mosques have been converted into courts of justice, storehouses, &c.; many French, Italian, and German modistes, tailors, boot-makers, cafes, restaurants, and billiards, have been established, and I even observed a very well supplied bookseller's shop. A Greek and French newspaper, called *'Le Sauveur'*, is also printed here. The expenses of living are very great, and as much as 500/- a-year is given for an unfurnished house. We several times saw his majesty, Otho I.; he was generally accompanied by his uncle-in-law, Duke Edward of Saxe-Altenbourg (now military governor of Nauplia), whose sister married the King of Bavaria, and who lately commanded the cavalry in Greece. The monarch drove about in a phæton, and was escorted by a party of lancers; but no one seemed to take much notice of him. Otho is not yet nineteen years of age, and will not be his own master till June 1835. He is a plain young man, having much of the negro features, especially in his enormous lips. He was dressed in a sky-blue uniform, with orange facings and silver lace, and wore one of those horrid little forage-caps introduced into the Greek army from Bavaria."

Corinth will always be a theme of interest; and we like to compare its modern state with its ancient glories.

"The town is known indifferently by the

names of Korinto, Korto (قورطو) and Ghidoros (غوردو); and in different parts are seen the ruins of mosques, and minars, and those of an extensive serai, formerly the residence of the Turkish pashas.* Adjoining the serai, or rather at the base of the rock on which it stands, is the fountain of Peirene, now called Aphroditi: it consists of a small stream gushing out of a fissure in the rock, whilst water drops from its overhanging ledge. This deliciously cool spot was formerly inclosed within the boundaries of the harem garden, and here, doubtless, many idle moments were spent by the powerful pasha—seated on the carpets of Persia, and surrounded by groups of lovely women, whilst he smoked his chibook, and, perhaps, indulged in the forbidden draught of wine. How changed is the scene!—no vestiges of the garden and its tulip-beds, the kiosks no longer exist, and a few dirty and squalid Greek women washing their rags, or carrying away jugs of water, have taken the place of the lovely inmates of the harem. The town was entirely destroyed during the last revolutionary war, but a few houses are rising out of the ashes; the bazaar is tolerably supplied, and there is a good inn kept by a Cephaloniote. Opposite the governor's house are the remains of a Doric temple, of which seven fluted monolithic columns remain, which, at present, measure fifteen feet seven inches in circumference; but, before the edges of the fluting were chipped off, their circumference was sixteen feet; they were covered with a coating of stucco or cement, and perhaps painted. Antiquarians suppose the temple to have been dedicated to Minerva Chalimitis. Close to it is an isolated mass of rock cut in a square form, and having a chamber excavated in it. This may be the tomb of Laia, but the lioness, holding a ram between her fore feet, which Pausanias states to have been sculptured on it, exists no longer. Observing no other remains of antiquity in the town, we rode up to

— You tower-capt Acropolis,
Which seems the very clouds to kiss."

The road was good and partly paved. The citadel is a large and straggling Venetian fortification with crenelated walls, which in parts rest upon portions of the old ones, composed of large, square, regular stones. It mounts about twenty-five pieces of cannon, many of which are Turkish brass pieces of forty-eight pounds, bearing the tooghra of Selim III. The garrison amounts to one hundred men."

The remarks upon Athens do not supply much that is new; the following brevities, however, may be excepted.

"The inscription on the semicircular marble in front of the entrance to the Parthenon has been cleared. I here transcribe it, as I do not believe it has yet been published.

* "The last of these governors was Dramah Ali, who was killed in the citadel, and his family taken prisoners. A Turkish and an English frigate coming into the Gulf of Lepanto, and obtaining their exchange, the sons went to the ruins of their father's palace, and dug out his treasures contained in two pits or wells, cut out under the floor of a kiosk near the hammams, which are still seen."

ΟΔΗΜΟΣΘΕΑΙΡΩΜΝΙΚΑΙΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΙΚΑΙΣΑΡΙΣΤ
ΠΑΤΗΓΟΤΝΤΟΣΕΠΙΠΟΤΕ
ΟΠΑΙΤΑΣΠΑΜΜΕΝΟΤΞΟΤΤΗΝΩΝΟΣΜΑΡΑΘ
ΞΝΙΟΤΙΕΡΕΩΣΘΕΑC
ΡΟΜΗΣΚΑΙΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΤΞΟΤΗΡΟΣΕΠΑΚΡΟΠΟΔΕΙ
ΕΠΙΝΕΙΡΕΑΣΑΘΗΝΑZ
ΠΟΛΙΔΑΟΣΜΕΤΙΣΤΗΣΤΗΣΑΣΚΛΗΠΙΔΟΤΑΛΑΙ
ΩΣΘΤΓΑΤΡΟΣ
ΕΠΙΠΑΡΧΟΝΤΟΣΑΡΗΤΟΤΑΡΙΓΝΟΣΠΑΙΑΙΕΑΕ

"The whole of the space within the walls of the Acropolis is shortly to be cleared, and as many of the blocks of sculpture and columnas, as can be collected, are to be replaced in their original situation.

"By the treaty made at the end of the war with the Greeks—a war in which the Turks had to contend not only with their rebellious subjects, but also with the three great and allied powers of Europe—it was stipulated that Athens and other places were to be given up by the Turks. Hajji Ismael Bey, the pasha, who resided at Aghriboz, however, never took the least notice of this treaty, in consequence of which a strong body of Bavarian troops was marched to Athens. The commandant having sent to the agha who commanded in the Acropolis, and had under his orders a garrison of not less than ten men, to say that the fortress was to be surrendered on the following day, enclosed at the same time a programme of the different forms and ceremonies which were to be gone through. Next day a great concourse of people assembled in their festival clothes to witness the humiliation of their late lords; the Bavarians *en grande tenue* marched up to the gate, but no Turks were to be seen; the Bavarians called out, and waited, but were afraid to advance, suspecting an ambuscade. After a couple of hours, a Moslem soldier on horseback appeared, leading another horse. In passing the Bavarians and Greeks, he saluted them with the term 'kiopeks,' 'sons of burnt fathers,' &c. and so departed. The rest of the garrison had in the morning quietly and singly walked out of the fortress, and thus was the grand and imposing ceremony, which was to have administered to German and Greek vanity, completely put an end to."

"On the 15th we rode back to the Piræus, and embarked, having first met King Otho making an inspection of the ground on which was to be erected the new naval town of his mighty empire. On quitting this little upstart realm, forced into existence by the hot-house of the allied powers, I in vain endeavoured to account to myself for the great interest shewn by Europe to obtain its emancipation from what it has been the fashion to call the iron despotism of Turkey; to account for the vast expenditure of blood, treasure, time, and good faith, which could not perceive that no advantage whatever could accrue to any of the parties, except to one, and that one certainly not Greece. Of the truth of this latter assertion, I can call to witness many Greeks; for, notwithstanding what has been said to the contrary, there exists a very strong Turkish party. This, however, is not to be wondered at, for every day proves

to the Greeks, that though they at present constitute an independent nation (independent, however, solely in name), and though they are supposed to be in the enjoyment of liberty, yet, formerly, under the Moslem yoke, they, in fact, possessed far more real freedom than they do at present. The Turkish rule was mild, and the public employments and offices, with the exception of that of the governing pasha, and of one or two others, were then all filled by the Greeks, whilst at present they are almost all monopolised by foreigners. Formerly the taxes were very light, compared to what they now are; for a man who was obliged to pay twenty-five piastres to the Turks, now pays one hundred and thirty, and this scale has every prospect of being increased. Many are the Greeks that have told me, that 'Liberty is, perhaps, very fine, but certainly extremely expensive.' The feelings of the Greeks, under their new form of government, may be ascertained with tolerable accuracy from the state of the nation since its establishment; for, has it not constantly been disturbed by insurrections and internal dissensions? It must also be borne in mind, that the rebellion originated, not in the great mass of the people, but with a few idle and fidgetty persons, who in the scramble had nothing to lose, and much to gain, and were, moreover, urged on and bribed to exertion by foreign gold, which never ceased, during the whole continuance of the contest, to be poured into their hands. At all events, whether the Greeks are satisfied or not with their present lot, there is no doubt that their nation forms but an apanage for the house of Bavaria, under the guidance of Russia. It is also equally clear that the Greeks are not worthy of independence, and this is the opinion of all those persons best acquainted with them; among whom I shall instance M. Faivel, who spent the greater part of his life in Greece, who says, 'The Greeks do not deserve to be emancipated, by reason of their national and individual depravity.' I am also of opinion that their remote ancestors, whom it has been the fashion almost to worship, were, if at all, but little better than the present Hellenes. 'The modern Greeks,' observes M. Roque, 'are the same *caveille* that existed in the days of Themistocles.' To us her independence, whether in a commercial or in any other point of view, has not been productive of the least advantage. In 1830, the whole value of British produce imported into Greece amounted to only 9694L, whilst in the same year the little rock of Gibraltar consumed no less than 292,760L; and, in 1832, only thirteen English vessels, carrying one thousand nine hundred and eighty-five tons, sailed for Greece and the islands, and seven entered England from it; during the last year the number was still less. The population of Greece, in 1833, has been estimated at eight hundred and sixty-eight thousand inhabitants (see Urquhart), and thus distributed: — Islands, 218,000; Eastern Greece, 150,000; Western Greece, 100,000; Morea, 400,000. I should, however, feel inclined to say that this number is too great, and that we may safely deduct one-sixth, if not one-fifth."

From the Greek Archipelago the Gossamer found its way to Constantinople; and Sir Granville, *inter alia*, gives us the following view of matters in that quarter: —

"Since I had last visited the capital of the Ottoman empire, in 1831, the greater part of Pera had been consumed by fire. The palace of England, which, from its isolated situation, and from being constructed of stone, I should have supposed would have escaped the general

ravage, was one of the buildings which became a prey to the flames, whilst the palace of Austria, built by the Venetians many years ago, entirely of wood, escaped untouched. A great proportion of the houses have been rebuilt, and the tower of Galata has been entirely repaired, and surmounted by a high conical roof, the view from which is very superb. In August 1833, another dreadful fire broke out at Constantinople, in the Toufen Khaneh, burned the whole of the Oun Kapan district, and the At bazaar, and continued its course (fortunately sparing the Suleymanieh) over the hill, to the Armenian quarter, on the opposite side of the seraglio. I believe, from all accounts, that this fire was not accidental, but was expressly done by Greeks bribed by the Russians, who wished to alarm the sultan into again applying for succour. By this fire, another ancient reservoir of water was brought to light. It is situated near the At Meidan, on the left of the street leading from it to the Bin-bir-derek, and, from the number of pillars which support the vault, is called *Otouz-iki-derek*, درك يكى اوتوز

the thirty-two columns. These columns form four rows, each of eight. This reservoir, as well as the Bin-birderek, forms part of the revenues of the harem; the former paying to the sultanas fifteen thousand piastres a-year, and the latter thirty thousand. The persons who rent the Bin-birderek, use the *lokale* for spinning silk; the Otouz-iki-derek serves as a place for making a twine used in the manufacture of nets. We visited the slave-market, and found that it continued to be supplied with the heart-ensnaring beauties of Georgia and Circassia. * * * Great improvements have lately taken place in the Ters-khaneh; a number of new buildings have been erected; large steam-engines for rolling copper, &c. &c., have been imported from England, and every thing connected with the armament and fitting-out of men-of-war is now made within the precincts of the navy-yard. The works are under the direction of Captain Kelly. Some American builders are at present constructing an enormous frigate for the sultan; she is double-banked, mounts seventy-two guns, some of which are to be sixty-eight pounders, and measures two hundred and twenty-eight feet in length. The army had undergone some changes since my last visit; the regular troops now consist of sixteen regiments of cavalry, and twenty-five of infantry; four of the former and four of the latter compose the guard. The strength of the corps of cavalry is the same, but the fifth battalions of infantry have been reduced. The whole of this force gives us a total of eighty-nine thousand two hundred and sixteen men, to which may be added, about ten thousand artillery, engineers, &c. &c., and several corps of disciplined troops maintained by different pashaleks, in number about eleven thousand, forming a general total of one hundred and ten thousand men. There are, besides, about the same number of relief, or militia, which may be called into active service. The number of irregular troops it is difficult to ascertain. By means of a bakhshieh, admittance may now be obtained as far as the third gate of the seraglio. Perhaps the day is not far distant, when the sultan may permit all the buildings and gardens to be visited—and, in fact, on my first visit, as I before observed, permission to that effect was granted to me. M. Zographo, minister from Greece to the Sublime Porte, had lately arrived at Constan-

tinople, bearing with him forty millions piastres for the Turkish government. The sultan had not, however, at the time of our departure, granted him an audience. Another nation was also represented at the Porte since my first visit—Commodore Porter, the officer who commanded the *Essex* when she was taken by the *Phœbe* and *Cherub*, being minister of the United States."*

It is rather a curious coincidence, at the present time, to observe that accounts have just been received of the burning of the town of the Dardanelles, containing a population of 20,000 souls; and it is stated, that much doubt is entertained whether the conflagration was accidental, or the work of wilful incendiaries. But we must break off for the present; and, in order not to leave our friends on a gloomy subject, we close with an extract touching Samos.

"Samothrace (Homer simply calls it Samos), called by the Turks Samendrek, and by the Greeks Samothraki, is about twenty-eight miles in circumference, twenty-three miles from the Thracian coast near Enos, twenty-one from the coast on the north, and twenty-three from Thasos. This island, as I before observed, rises steep and high out of the waves, towering far above all others, and can be seen from a great distance. It was formerly considered the symbol of virile energy. It contains two mountains, known to the ancients by the name of Saus and Mosychlus, though some authors place the latter, which appears to have been a volcano, in Lemnos. In one of these mountains was the Zerynthian cave, where the Kabiri, or Corybantes, were worshipped. The meaning of the name Kabiri is 'the powerful,' or 'great,' the 'Dii Magni.' The word is still retained in the Arabic *الكباد* 'the great people,' from *كباد* 'great.' These divinities were Axioversus, Axiokersa, and Aixerus. Writers, however, differ as to the gods of the Grecian and Roman mythology with which they corresponded. The feasts of the Kabiri were held at night, and were a sort of free-masonic initiations. The candidates were proved by fearful sights, and afterwards crowned. Many of the greatest personages of antiquity were initiated. The Kabirian orgies were peculiar to the Samothracaean, but the Eleusinian were derived from them. It is supposed that both Olan and Pherecydes, the one the oldest writer of Greek verse, and the other of prose, were natives of Samothrace. The natives spoke two languages, and it would be of considerable importance to ascertain if any traces of the Thracian still exist; this, however, cannot, I fear, be done in the island, as some years back the entire population was either destroyed or exiled. The people who at present reside on it speak the common Greek in general use among the islands. I made inquiries, but could discover no peculiar words. In 1821 the population of Samendrek amounted to three thousand two hundred; but, during that year, instigated by some turbulent ruffians from Ipsera, they rebelled against the government; and Muhammed Bey Selihtar, being sent to appease the insurrection, made some drink of the cup of death, and carried off the rest as prisoners. The houses were also burnt, and the flocks carried

* "The eastern nations have very undefined ideas of America. One of their geographical writers says of it: 'Several European navigators have gone to that country, of which the air and water are most pure and salubrious; but there is neither civilisation nor cultivation. The Europeans examined all the particulars of the country, and wrote some books describing it. Since then, all nations have contributed to its population and improvement, and it has become another and a New World (*Tomi deon*),—the name by which America is known.'

off. Some time after, the island became again inhabited; and prosperity, for a time, prevailed: when parties of Christian Arnaoods, in pay of the Greek government, invaded the island, spreading death and desolation around them; and it is only within the last two or three years that the island has been freed from their devastations. The population amounts, at present, to one thousand persons, who appear contented, though poor, for I was assured that goods to the amount of two purses (ten pounds) would not find a market. They have flocks, and cultivate more barley than is sufficient for home consumption; the surplus, together with a considerable quantity of cheese, they export to Kara-gach in Thrace, and return with salt-fish and coarse stuffs. The revenues belong to the Capudan Pasha, who lets them for seven or eight thousand piastres (from seventy to eighty pounds.) The sheikh, El Islam, rents them at present. The produce of the land pays one-eighth, and each sheep thirty piastres (three-fourths of a piastre). The inhabitants are quite satisfied with the Turkish government, and are far from being anxious to form a part of the kingdom of Greece, knowing that, if they did, they would have to pay five times as much as they do at present. The eastern side of the island contains pasture ground and wood; on the other side of the cape the land is lower, and is under tillage. Fish abound off the coast; but there are no fishermen. In point of bold, and, at the same time, lovely scenery, I know of no place which can compare with Samendrek; and I cannot take leave of it without expressing my sincere hope, that travellers will in future direct their attention to it, and thoroughly explore it. The discovery of the Zeyrathian cave, filled, as it probably is, with curious sculpture and inscriptions, would alone be more than sufficient to reward them for the trouble and hardships they might experience in the undertaking."

Adventures of Bilberry Thurland. 3 vols.

12mo. London, 1836. Bentley.

After reading these volumes, which we slightly noticed last week, we are not inclined to alter our opinion, then and there recorded, that they are "quite natural like;" and, though very much drawn out, they will well repay the reader's trouble. It is quite new ground for the modern novelist, being the life of a wandering beggar, from first to last, who, after leading us through many low and curious adventures, finally settles in a "neat little homestead;" and here his adventures should have ended, for we like not accompanying our heroes and heroines to that last and very little homestead, the grave.

We would make long extracts, but the story of "ar cock," though amusing enough, is too prolix; and, therefore, as fair specimens, we are induced to select the following disjointed bits. After ably touching upon a beggar's sleeping den, our author thus describes some old blind mendicants:

"In one part were gathered together six or eight blind men, who had thus groped one another out, that they might enjoy together a little of the fellowship of congenial conversation. Several of them had miserable dogs between their feet, which, after leading them through the streets all day without any other food than such as they could pick out of the stagnant channels as they passed, were brought here at night to receive little save kicks and cuffs from whosoever thought fit to bestow any upon them. Several others had each a little half-starved girl or boy beside him, who had served throughout

their masters' peregrinations the same office as the aforesaid dogs, and were now also treated much after the same grateful fashion. While the remaining number were men of such experience in blindness, that, throughout their old haunts, they could make their way as surely without eyes as with them. In fact, one of the most practised of them, with a huge oath, declared his belief that eyes were more trouble than they were worth, especially in a sandy summer; and thanked God that his own were ready shut whenever he wanted to go to sleep. Contrary to the usual method of discourse, these blind villains did not inquire what each other had seen, but what they had felt during the day; while their discourse was very thickly besprinkled with such wicked varieties of swearing as could only have been picked out of eternal darkness like theirs. This, however, we may imagine, was done by way of change and recreation, after calling so lustily on God and Christian for ten or twelve hours together for help to the sand-blind, and exhausting every form of speech in religious appeals and holy prayers to the benevolent and humane."

Again, the landlord of "ar cock's" bill (pp. 166 and 167, second volume) is original enough, as is the following letter from the cook of Sir Robert Gruel,—whose childish eccentricities, we may say, *en passant*, are very droll—in answer to Bilberry's request to procure him a place.

"Swipes Crent Kitchin, Wensday.

"Dear Bilbury,—This leaves me well as it finds yo, I hope. Yours comed in a nick of time, for Sir Robet Gruel has in want of a nice young man for all work and generally useful, as I think you ar; and so cum down as soon as yo read this, for I shall injoy your cumpny in my kitchen verrry much. It is new washed on porpoise. If Sir Robet wil take yew, as I nos he wil, we tew mite think of puttin hour mites in one, an if you wod hav me, we wod mary out here after a wile. At this present I hav a small fortin, and can larn yo how to save in this ouse, so as then we mite put ar fortins together, an mak a stir in the wold like them as is better.—Yours til deth,

"SUSHANDLE DISHCLOTH."

The following is the bill above alluded to:

" Boat off Samuel Pugim.	
<i>" Good enteertaiment for man and beast."</i>	
To on can of ale	£ s. d.
.....	0 0 14
To ditto	0 0 13
To the same	0 0 13
To likewise	0 0 13
To 1 suppon ar cock	0 0 9
Melted butter and parsy gid in ..	0 0 0
Bred to sam	0 0 1
Cheese after	0 0 1
Fore cans all, since	0 0 6
To 1 bed, logging	0 0 3
Grand Totle	0 2 2

" Seuid sam day
" Samil Pugim."

The volumes are enriched with nine clever characteristic woodcuts by Mr. A. Hervieu.

A History of British Quadrupeds. By Thomas Bell, F.R.S., F.L.S., &c. Parts I. and II. 8vo. London, 1836. Van Voorst.

This work promises fairly to become one of the most popular histories of British quadrupeds in the English language. The parts now before us contain accounts of the bat, the hedgehog, and (partly) the mole: they are all described with that ease and accuracy, and occasionally elegance and feeling, which clearly evince that a master hand has undertaken the task. Upwards of forty beautiful engravings, which look like life, are given to illustrate more fully the history of the bat alone, of which the author has

enumerated seventeen species, though a few years since there were only six.* He has also thrown considerable light on the habits of the great bat (*Vespertilio noctula*), thereby clearing up many doubts, in our opinion, highly satisfactorily, on points respecting which several naturalists were undecided. We have rarely met with a work of so much difficulty in its formation (as that consequent upon the correct description of the generic and specific characters of the animals), framed with such clearness and simplicity of style. It reminds us pleasantly of the best portions of Gilbert White's "Selborne," but containing greater insight and more research than that worthy naturalist had the means of bestowing on his performance in those days. We extract a portion descriptive of the powers of architecture in the mole.

"The district or domain to which an individual mole confines himself may be termed its encampment. Within its limits, or at least in immediate communication with this district, all the labours of the animal are pursued. It consists of the habitation or fortress, from which extends the high road by which the animal reaches the opposite extremity of the encampment, and of various galleries or excavations opening into this road, which it is continually extending in search of food, and which constitute, in fact, its hunting-ground. The fortress is formed under a large hillock, which is always raised in a situation of safety and protection; either under a bank, against the foundation of a wall, at the root of a tree, or in some similar locality. The earth, of which the dome covering this curious habitation is composed, is rendered exceedingly strong and solid, by being pressed and beaten by the mole in forming it. It contains a circular gallery within the base, which communicates with a smaller one above by five nearly equidistant passages; and the domicile or chamber is placed within the lower and beneath the upper circular gallery, to which last it has access by three similar passages. From the chamber extends another road, the direction of which is at first downwards for several inches; it then rises again to open into the high road of the encampment. From the external circular gallery open about nine other passages, the orifices of which are never formed opposite to those which connect the outer with the inner and upper gallery: these extend to a greater or less distance, and, according to De Vaux, return, each taking an irregular semicircular route, and opening into the high road at various distances from the fortress. Such is the very hasty description of this most singular structure; and nothing surely can be imagined more admirably calculated to insure the security or the retreat of the inhabitant, than such an arrangement of internal routes of communication as this. The chamber communicating beneath directly with the road, and above with the upper gallery,—this with the lower by five passages, and the latter again with the road by no less than nine,—exhibits altogether a complication of architecture, which may rival the more celebrated erections of the beaver. Another very important part of the encampment is the high road, which has been termed by the Continental naturalists, 'the passage'—a name which affords no distinctive idea of its nature or

* "The genus *Vespertilio*, restricted as it now is by the necessary dismemberment of the large group which was formerly comprehended under that term, still retains a considerable number of species, of which no less than twelve are natives of this country, besides two species of *Plecotus*, one of *Burbastulus*, and two of *Rhinolophus*, making in all, seventeen species of the order." Many more species will probably be yet found to be indigenous to our island.

use. It differs essentially from all the other routes and excavations, both in its construction and use. It extends from the fortress to the extremity of the domain in nearly a direct line, forming, in fact, the main route of communication between the fortress and the different parts of the encampment; and the alleys which lead to the hunting-ground, or quarries, open into it on each side. Its circumference is larger than the body of the mole, though not large enough to admit of two individuals passing each other. The walls are beaten by the frequent pressure of the animal's sides against them, until they become very smooth and compact: in fact, this road is principally formed by the compression of the earth which surrounds it, rather than by actual excavation; and hence the infrequency of mole-hills over it, compared with the number which are observed in connexion with the alleys and the quarries, in forming which the earth is removed out of the way by being thrown up on the surface. In some instances, the same mole forms a second and even a third road; but this is generally done in order to extend its operations to a new and more productive district. In other cases, many moles are known to employ one road, though they never intrude upon each other's hunting-ground: in this case, should two of them meet, one must retreat into the nearest alley, or a battle ensues, which proves fatal to the weaker of the combatants. The road is formed at a greater or less depth from the surface, according to the nature of the soil, the danger of injury from superincumbent pressure, and other circumstances. Thus, in safe situations, where there is nothing to disturb or threaten the security of its roof, it will be found at a depth of about four or five inches; whilst in other places, as under a road or beneath a stream, the earth is left not less than a foot or a foot and a half deep above it. As it is only by the high road that the mole can visit the different quarries or hunting-grounds of its domain, it is traversed regularly several times in the course of the day: hence it is only in this route that it can with any certainty be taken, and the traps are, therefore, always placed in its course by skilful mole-catchers, so as to intercept the animal, and in its journey between the fortress and that alley which may happen at the time to be the seat of its labours. The swiftness with which the mole will traverse its domain by means of this principal road, was made the subject of an amusing and satisfactory experiment by Le Court. Having ascertained the exact direction of the road, and finding that the mole was engaged in exploring for its food the ground at the furthest extremity from the fortress, he placed along its course at certain distances several pieces of straw, one extremity of which penetrated within the passage, and to the other end was fixed a little flag of paper. He also introduced into the passage near the end, a horn, with the mouth-piece standing out of the ground. Then waiting till he was sure of the mole's presence at that part of the road, he blew into the horn, to use the words of Geoffroy, "un cri effroyable;" when, in a moment, the little flags were successively thrown off, as the mole, in its rapid course towards its fortress, came in contact with the interior extremities of the straws: and the spectators of this neat and demonstrative experiment affirm that the speed of the frightened mole was equal to that of a horse at full trot."

Having so much of the bats, however, it would look like partial blindness were we to confine our illustrations to the mole, which

only occupies a few pages; and we, therefore, quote something of the former.

"Do our bats ever migrate? or do swallows ever hibernate? To both these questions I doubt not the same unqualified negative must be given. Their winter absence from the scenes which their summer presence and activity had enlivened, must be attributed to exclusively distinct causes. The bats hibernate; the swallows migrate. The hibernation of these animals is, indeed, one of the most interesting points in their economy. At an earlier or later period of autumn, according to the species, they retreat, generally in large congregations of various species together, to the most retired places; as under the roofs of houses and churches, in caverns, in the hollows of trees, and similar situations, where they suspend themselves by their hinder claws, with the head downwards. Here they crowd together, holding not only by the surface of the walls of their retreat, but by each other, one crowding over another so closely that it appears scarcely possible for such numbers to occupy so small a space. The retirement of the different species takes place at very different periods of the year. The noctule is seldom seen abroad much later than July; and the pipistrelle, the most common of our indigenous bats, will sometimes make its appearance, in fine mild weather, almost every month in the year; it does not even restrict itself to the obscurity of evening, but may now and then be seen flitting about in the bright sunshine of a December day, in search of the few insects which the unwonted influence of his rays has called into a short-lived activity. The female bat brings forth one or two young at a birth, which she nurses with great tenderness and care, carrying it about with her, and holding it enshrouded in her ample cloak, which preserves it from all intrusion. During the period of breeding, some species are observed to pair; and Geoffroy St. Hilaire states, that whilst the female is suckling, the male places himself in front of the mother, so that the young one may be equally protected and warmed by both the parents at the same time. It is, perhaps, difficult to account for the prejudices which have always existed against these harmless and interesting little animals, which have not only furnished objects of superstitious dread to the ignorant, but have proved to the poet and the painter a fertile source of images of gloom and terror. That the ancient Greek and Roman poets, furnished with exaggerated accounts of the animals infesting the remote regions with which their commerce or their conquests had made them acquainted, should have caught eagerly at those marvellous stories and descriptions, and rendered them subservient to their fabulous, but highly imaginative mythology, is not wonderful; and it is more probable that some of the Indian species of bats, with their predatory habits, their multitudinous numbers, their obscure and mysterious retreats, and the strange combination of the character of beast and bird, which they were believed to possess, gave to Virgil the idea, which he has so poetically worked out, of the harpies which fell upon the hastily spread tables of his hero and his companions, and polluted, whilst they devoured, the feast from which they had driven the affrighted guests. But that the little harmless bats of our own climate, whose habits are at once so innocent and so amusing, and whose time of appearance and activity is that when every thing around would lead the mind to tranquillity and peace, should be forced into scenes of mystery and horror, as an almost

essential feature in the picture, is an anomaly which cannot be so easily explained."

We were recently interested by a curious history of animal succession in the occupation of a dwelling-place, which, as it illustrates the habits of the bat, we will mention here. In a tree on the grounds of Mr. Bright, Ham Green, near Bristol, about thirty feet up the trunk, the woodpeckers had perforated the wood, and constructed a habitation for themselves. Of this they retained the copyhold for a season, when, by some process or other, they were ejected and seen no more; their abode being seized upon by a colony of bats. These were so numerous, that while sitting under the shade in a summer evening, seventy have been counted as they issued from the same hole, and flew chiefly towards the banks of the Avon, in search of food. The interior must, therefore, have been roomy enough to contain, perhaps, hundreds of these creatures; and their congregation together affords an insight into their natural economy. It is deserving of notice, to shew that the lower animals, as well as man, are subject to strange vicissitudes in this world; that the bats were, in turn, dispossessed by a swarm of bees, to whom the snugger in the tree devolved, just as a quiet gentleman's estate might become the property of so many sting-ing and sharp attorneys.

There is one point in Mr. Bell's work of which we cannot approve. In speaking of "the hairy-armed bat," he says: "Although the name which I have retained for this species is not the one which was originally applied to it by its discoverer, Leisler, I have preferred that by which Kuhl conveyed a well-merited compliment to that naturalist, who has contributed so much to our knowledge of European bats. Were it not for this reason, it would have been desirable to restore the former term, which is founded upon a marked distinctive character, and the meaning of which I have still endeavoured to convey in the English name now chosen for it."

This is a specimen of the absurdity and confusion which arises out of the confounded complimentary humours which men of science are so fond of exhibiting. "The hairy-armed bat," is a descriptive, distinctive, and intelligible, English name; and as such, is infinitely to be preferred to the *Vespertilio Leisleri*, which conveys no information whatever; or the *Vesp. dasycarpus*, which is Greek to the tens of thousands in the country who love to mark the nature and characters of the living beings that surround them. But enough of objection: the following, respecting the "long-eared bat," is curious: —

"It is one of the most common of our British bats; and the extraordinary development of the ears, their beautiful transparency, and the elegant curves into which they are thrown at the will of the animal, render it by far the most pleasing: it is also more readily tamed than any other, and may soon be brought to exhibit a considerable degree of civility with those who feed and caress it. I have frequently watched them when in confinement, and have observed them to be bold and familiar even from the first. They are very cleanly; not only cleaning themselves after feeding, and at other times, with great assiduity, but occasionally assisting each other in this office. They are very playful, too, and their gambols are not the less amusing from their awkwardness. They run over and against each other, pretending to bite, but never harming their companions of the same species; though I have seen them exhibit a sad spirit of persecution

to an unfortunate barbastelle which was placed in the same cage with them. They may be readily brought to eat from the hand; and my friend, Mr. James Sowerby, had one during last summer, which, when at liberty in the parlour, would fly to the hand of any of the young people who held up a fly towards it, and pitching on the hand, take the fly without hesitation. If the insect were held between the lips, the bat would then settle on its young patron's cheek, and take the fly with great gentleness from the mouth: and so far was this familiarity carried, that when either of my young friends made a humming noise with the mouth in imitation of an insect, the bat would search about the lips for the promised dainty."

We must now say a word of our esteemed friend, the hedgehog (or quill-driver):—

"The hibernation of the hedgehog is, perhaps, as complete as that of any animal inhabiting this country; and much more so than that of many of the rodentia, which retire indeed to winter retreats, but awaken at intervals, to eat of their treasured hoard of nuts or grain, when called into temporary life by a day of unwonted mildness. The hedgehog, on the contrary, lays up no store for the winter, but retires to its warm soft nest of moss and leaves, and rolling itself up into a compact ball, passes the dreary season in a state of dreamless slumber, undisturbed by the violence of the tempest, and only rendered still more profoundly torpid by the bitterest frost. Its usual retreats are in the hollows of trees which are decayed at the bottom of the trunk; underneath its base, where the earth has been washed away from under the huge naked roots, in holes of rocks, or in any similar protected excavation. The female produces from two to four young ones early in the summer: at birth they are blind, and covered with nascent spines, which are white, soft, and flexible at first, but become hard in the course of a day or two. The nest is formed with considerable art; and the roof, even where there is no other covering, is capable of throwing off the rain, and preserving the interior entirely dry. Buffon relates that he has repeatedly placed the mother and the young in a place of confinement; but that, instead of sucking them, she invariably killed and devoured them, notwithstanding she was provided with plenty of food. The same naturalist has a sufficiently absurd story respecting the breeding of these animals, which, as well as many other fables, he has copied implicitly from the credulous Pliny, who, however, received it from no less an authority than Aristotle himself. By the eloquence of his diction, and his great popularity, Buffon has been the means of perpetuating this, with innumerable other errors."

Part II. breaks off in the middle of another interesting account of the same animal; which being the case, we must, of necessity, break off too.

Laing's Journal of a Residence in Norway.

(Third notice.)

AMONG the common usages of the country we like this, though exploded in other countries, and which first strikes the stranger.

"On getting up from table, each person goes round the whole company, and shakes hands with every one, with the complimentary phrase, 'Tak for mad,'—thanks for the meal; or 'Wel bekomme,'—may it do you good. This form is universal. The infant is taught to make its bow or curtsey to its mother, and

say, 'Tak for mad.' The husband and wife shake hands, and say, 'Tak for mad' to each other. In a large party it has the appearance of a dance around the table—every one going round to pay the compliment. I have observed that it is paid to the smallest child at table, as gravely and ceremoniously as to grown people. In the treatment of children, they seem not to make that difference which we do between the child and the grown-up person; and which divides life often into two parts, little connected with each other. The children seem, from the first, to be treated with consideration and respect, like grown persons. They are not, on that account, little old men and prim little ladies; but are wild, romping, joyous creatures, giving as small annoyance or trouble as children can do. 'Tak for sidste' is another exploded form of politeness, still universal here. It means, 'thanks for the pleasure I had from your company the last time we met.' It is a compliment of recognition, which it would be extremely rude to neglect. The common people give tak for sidste to the Swedish peasants of Jemtland, and whom they have certainly not seen since the preceding year's snow; and then, possibly, only in taking a dram together. A labourer never passes another at work, or at his meal, without a complimentary expression, wishing him luck in his labour, or good from his meal. In addition to these, perhaps not altogether useless, forms, there are the ordinary inquiries after friends at home, and compliments and remembrances sent and received, in due abundance."

Elsewhere Mr. Laing says,

"There is something indelicate, and perhaps not very honourable, in describing minutely private societies and modes of living of families in a foreign country, where the stranger is invited in the kindest spirit of hospitality, and not that he should make his remarks, however flattering they may be to his entertainers. This difficulty, however, need not be felt here, because the mode of living is so simple and uniform in every family, or party, that our description can have nothing peculiarly referable to any one. You are invited by a list carried round by a man on horseback, and, opposite to your name, you put down that you accept, or decline. You are expected about four o'clock, long after dinner, for which twelve or one is the usual hour. The stranger who will take the trouble to come early will be much gratified, for there is nothing on the continent so pretty as the arrival of a sledge party. The distant jingling of the bells is heard, before any thing can be seen through the dusk and snow; and sound rapidly approaching, is one of the most pleasing impressions on our senses. Then, one sledge seems to break, as it were, through the cloud, and is followed by a train of twenty or thirty, sweeping over the snow. The spirited action of the little horses, with their long manes and tails, the light and elegant form of the sledges appearing on the white ground, the ladies wrapt in their furs and shawls, the gentlemen

standing behind, driving in their wolf-skin pelisses, the master of the house and the servants at the door with candles, form a scene particularly novel and pleasing. Coffee and tea are handed round to each person on their arrival; and the company walk about the room and converse. It appears to me that there are never any of those dismal awkward pauses in company here, nor of that reliance on one or two good talkers, or hacknied subjects, such as wind, weather, and news, which characterise

our ordinary society in England and Scotland; every body seems to have something to say, and to say it; and conversation does not flag. This arises, probably, from the temperament of the people, and the total absence of pretence in their character; that is, of wishing to appear more or less important, more or less rich, more or less learned, or more or less any thing, than they really are. After the party is all assembled, the mellem-maaltid, or middle repast, is brought in. This is a tray with slices of bread and butter, anchovies, slices of tongue, of smoked meat, of cheese; and every one helps himself as he walks about. The gentlemen generally take a glass of spirits at this repast, which is a regular meal in every family. The gentlemen then sit down to cards. I have not seen a lady at a card-table. The games usually played are boston, ombre, shervenel, which seems a complicated sort of piquet, and three-card loo. The stakes are always very small. Those of the elderly gentlemen, who do not play, light their pipes and converse. The younger generally make out a dance, or have singing and music, usually the guitar, with an occasional waltz or gallopade, or polsk, a national dance, much more animated than the waltz. Nor are handsome young officers wanting, in moustaches and gay uniforms, who would not touch tobacco or spirits for the world, and seem to know how to act the agreeable. Punch is handed about very frequently, as it is not customary to drink any thing at or after supper. The supper is almost invariably the same. A dish of fish cut into slices, is passed from one guest to another, and each helps himself. The lady of the house generally walks down behind the company, and sees that each is supplied. After the fish is discussed, the plate is taken away, and one finds a clean plate under it; the knife and fork are wiped by a servant, and the next dishes begin their rounds. They consist always in this district, of reindeer venison, capercailzie (the male of which is as large as a turkey, the female so remarkably smaller that it passes by a different name, Tiur or Tiddur signifying the male, and Roer, the female); also black cock and ptarmigan. These are cut into pieces, laid on a dish, and passed round; and the dish is followed by a succession of sauces or preserved berries, such as the moltebeer, which is the *rubus chamaemorus* of botanists, the ackerbeer (*rubus arcticus*), the tyttebeer (*vaccinium vitis idaea*). These are such very good things, that there is no difficulty in acquiring a taste for them. A cake concludes the supper. The lady of the house scarcely sits down to table, but carves, walks about behind the chairs, and attends to the supply of the guests."

The church of Norway appears to be comparatively in a blessed condition.

"It is a peculiar characteristic of the Norwegian church, that there is no dissent from it; no sectarians. A few years ago, a person of the name of Houghan had a few followers; but his doctrine on religious points did not differ from that of the established church. It was his object to inspire a more religious spirit, and more strict observance of the church doctrine; so that his followers were similar to what is called the evangelical part of the community of the church of England. But even this slight attempt at a division, within the pale of the church itself, appears to have had no success. There are several reasons for this peculiarity of the Norwegian church. The principal, perhaps, is, that it has no temporal power; no political existence as a part of the state; no courts, or

laws, or interests of its own, jarring with those of the other classes of the community, and raising animosity between them and the clergy. The clergy are, in political rights or privileges, on the same footing as any other class of the community. The Lutheran religion is part of the state; but not the ministers who are employed to teach it. They are represented in the Storthing like other citizens; and, having no separate interests as a body of clergy, enjoy individually the confidence of the people, and an unity of interests with them. They are often sent to the Storthing as their representatives. This unity of worldly interests prevents dissent in spiritual matters. Another cause of the great influence of the clergy, and of the total absence of religious dissent, is the great consideration in which the rite of confirmation is held. It is not here, as it practically is in the church of England, a mere ceremony, in which the bishop knows nothing personally of the parties he is admitting into the church, and the parish priest knows little more than that they were baptised and are of age. There is here a strict examination by the bishop, or the probst, or rural dean, into the young person's knowledge of his moral and religious duties, his capacity, acquirements, and character; and it is only after a long previous preparation by his parish minister, equal almost to a course of education, the confirmants being instructed singly as well as in classes, that the individual is presented for this examination. I was present lately at a confirmation of about twenty young persons in our parish church by the probst. The examination, in presence of the congregation, occupied nearly two hours. It was not merely asking and replying, by a string of set questions and answers from the church catechism. It resembled more the kind of examination used in teaching the reading classes in the Sessional School in Edinburgh. It was a sifting trial to know if each individual attached the real meaning to the words he was using, and actually did understand what he had been taught on the subject of religion. It was evident that considerable pains had been taken with the instruction of each individual. To pass such a confirmation implies that the young person is well grounded in the principles of his moral and religious duties, and is of good character and understanding. It is, in common life, equivalent to taking of a degree in the learned professions, being in fact a certificate of capacity for discharging ordinary duties and trusts. It is, accordingly, so considered in Norway. 'A confirmed shop-boy wants a place,'—'Wanted, a confirmed girl who can cook,'—are the ordinary advertisements to or from that class of the community; and the not being confirmed would be held equivalent to not having a character, either from want of conduct, or of ordinary capacity. Something similar prevailed formerly in Scotland, but not to the same extent. A young man, of the labouring class, usually took a certificate of his good character from the minister when he removed to a distant parish. The confirmation in Norway certifies much more, as, in the face of the congregation, the confirmant has shewn that he can read and has the use of his mental faculties to an ordinary degree, according to his station, and has moral and religious principles to direct him. It is extraordinary that the Church of England has not, like this Lutheran sister in the north, kept fast hold of a rite which connected her so closely with society, its education and its business. This simple discharge of an unexceptionable duty shuts out dissent from the Norwegian Church.'

Connected with this subject we quote some striking remarks on the subject of education.

"The progress of education among the working classes in Britain will probably make it necessary to unite the two plans at no distant time; to make the half of Saturday a period of rest by political institution, as well as the whole of Sunday by Divine institution. The educated working man in Britain is, at present, in a worse condition, in consequence of his education, than the untaught labourer, who has only his animal wants to supply. Take the most simple case. The educated working man generally wishes to read a portion of the Scriptures daily in his family. This is surely the most simple and immediate result of education. He must occupy some portion of time in doing so, over and above the time which his family, in common with the families of all the ignorant and uneducated of his fellow-labourers, must take for the ordinary business of life, for sleeping, cooking, eating, washing, marketing, and such household occupations. But this time will cost him money, or money's worth. It cannot well be less than half an hour, including the assembling of the family, if he is to read at all. Now half an hour a-day comes to three hours a-week, and in half a-year, of twenty-five working weeks, it comes to no less than one week, of six working days, of twelve hours; and by so much, by one week's work in twenty-five, can the untaught labourer undersell the educated one in the labour market. It is this advantage of uneducated labour which it seems to be the object of trades' unions and combinations to exclude. The educated labouring man of the present day is, in fact, well entitled to say to the rest of the community,—You have educated me, you have given me the wants, and tastes, and habits of a moral, religious, thinking being; you must give me leisure to use these endowments without prejudice to my means of subsistence; otherwise, you have sunk my condition below that of my fellow-labourer, who requires only what is indispensably necessary for existence. It is very possible, that when the formation of trades' unions, for raising their rate of wages, lessening the number of working hours, and such objects as are scarcely compatible with the unrestrained productive power of capital employed in manufactories, is traced to its causes, these will be found to be intimately connected with the wants and habits of a people advancing in mental culture. It is very possible, that a day may come when it will be necessary to decide whether the education of the people of Great Britain shall be abandoned, as incompatible with the utmost productive powers of labour; or those powers, as called into action by capital, be regulated by laws. The uneducated man can work fourteen hours a-day, having no demands upon his time, but for food and rest; while the other cannot exceed twelve hours, if he is to enjoy any benefit or gratification as an educated man. This dilemma, in fact, exists now; although Lord Brougham, Mr. Hume, and the other friends of the education of the people, are afraid to look it in the face. The uneducated labourer reduces the educated labourer to work the same number of hours that he works in every trade; and that number is not compatible with any of the purposes or uses of education, not even that of giving religious or moral instruction to his own family. If the Church of England were to make good a claim on the half of Saturday, preserving at the same time the whole of Sunday, as at present, and make it a period of rest from all work, it would be a remedy

for the hard fate of the educated working man."*

(To be continued.)

Diary of Sir Henry Slingsby.

[Second and concluding notice.]

HAVING, in our *Gazette* of Aug. 20, quoted such passages from the *Diary* as were calculated to shew its character and value, we will now take the same course with respect to the epistolary portion of the volume.

The family letters open half a century before the birth of the Diarist; and the following is an interesting notice of the Elizabethan age: "[Sir] William Slingsby [Kn^t. of Kippax] to his Father 'M^r. Francis Slingsby Esquier.' " Sir—I have long desired to hear from you, and do well hope you are before this tyme deuyered from that bondadge: I doubt not but you haue hard how the windes haue compised against vs, and as yett we attend the good tyme of our delyuerance, and if we be not yett too long imbayed there wyl be hope left to do seruice vppon the enemy, though not in that manner as was first intended; for dayly our fleete growes les and les, our vittayles spending, and our Soldyers Sycke and weake; some craye leue to go for there infermyties, and some go wythout leue indispyte of all proclamations prohibiting them: many of the Gentylmen aduenturers alredy gone, som for sea sicknes discouragid by the last storne, some out of a more base disposition hopelss now to make profyt of the viadge, for whych end only they vnderooke the Jorney, & som for want, long syner spent to the vttermost of these credytes and abylyties, Yett I thanke God my brother and my self ryde it out at an anker, wthy resolution to indure wyth the late, all in heythe at land, though for my own parte, at the sens, I was the sykkest of syx hundred in our shyp: we wyl all want before one shall want, and I hope we shall be able to indure it. The somer is so far spent as it is thought our land soldyers shall be discharged this next weeke, a few excepted, to be deuyded emongst the Queens shryes to man them more thorowly, and the next wynd to go on wyth the fleete to figh wyth the enymie by Sea, if he dar come forth to inconter vs, or to assalt the west indyan fleet if it shal be our fortunes to fynd them. So constant a contrary wynd hayth beeene seldom seen and so stormy a somer never seen.

* A correspondent, evidently well acquainted with the subject, thinks, as we do, highly of Mr. Laing's work, notwithstanding objects to certain errors, which he states to be drawbacks on its general character. Thus:

"In your last Number (1084), you quote his definition of the Norwegian word 'trolovet,' or 'betrothal,' which the author states is derived from 'tro,' to contract, and 'loo,' law. Now there is such a substantive as 'loo,' law, but no such verb as 'trose,' to contract; the latter having no other signification than 'to believe.' The word 'trolovet' is derived from 'love,' to promise, and 'tro,' fidelity.

"The author adds, that 'in old times a man might be a true lover to his bond for ten pounds, as well as to his sweetheart.' It would be more correct to say, that 'he faithfully promised,' or 'pledged his faith,' which is pretty much in conformity to the technical terms still retained in legal bonds and the matrimonial ceremony.

"The author adds elsewhere (according to your quotation), that marriage in Norway consists of two distinct ceremonies—the betrothal and the final ceremony."

"It is true that marriage is there sometimes preceded by a public or ceremonial betrothal; but that form is by no means required by law (as Mr. Laing's statement would lead us to suppose), and has long since fallen into disuse; which is much to be rejoiced at, for the reasons stated by Mr. Laing, viz. 'That the privileged kindness, or rather familiarity, between betrothed parties was carried too far, and the female a mother before she was a wife,' which she too frequently never became.

"Having at present read no more of Mr. Laing's work than the quotations therefrom in the *Literary Gazette*, I conclude without further observation, in the hope that I may find his remarks in general more lucid and correct than those referred to in this letter.

"I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"London, 6th Sept. 1836."

"B. T."

" Parfumis plaster.—nor halfe a pounde of Parfumis plaster boughtes of an apothecarie in seethings layne to Carie downe into Yorkeſhier, ijs.

" December 1631.—Barber.—The 17 to the barber for tringinge me; xvijd.

" Sealz of Armes.—for a scale of armes for my selfe, vj. vjd.

" Januar: 1631.—Hen: Slyngsbie.—To Henrie Silingsbie for the increase of his allowance of diett for 3 weeke at Crise over and aboue his weeekly allowance for him selfe & his wife at 6s. a weeke a piece, xxxvjs.

" Spectacles.—for 6; paire of spectacles to give awaie amonst my daughters, ijs.

There is much singular correspondence with females of the family on religious topics; but we must refer them to the work itself, and conclude by stating, that the loyal and worthy writer of the diary was beheaded on the 8th of June, 1658.

The Despatches, Minutes, and Correspondence of the Marquess of Wellesley, K.G. during his Administration in India. Edited by Montgomery Martin. Vol. II. 8vo. pp. 760. London, 1836. Allen and Co.

This most valuable publication will long be consulted, not only for the clear historical lights it throws upon the important affairs of the East, during an epoch of intense interest, but as a manual for diplomats and statesmen. It exhibits the Marquess of Wellesley in strong colours, as a man well and wisely chosen to fill the high station, and meet the vast responsibilities of Governor of India: and while our admiration rises as we read every new proof of his acuteness, sagacity, and talent, we breathe a prayer that the welfare of England may never be perilled by the administration of her affairs being intrusted to incompetent hands.

A fine testimony is borne to the abilities of the Marquess of Wellesley in a letter from Lady Hester Stanhope to Mr. Heber (last No. of the *Gentleman's Magazine*), a short time before the death of Pitt; in which, speaking of her illustrious relative, she says, "Might it not be as well to particularly mention the affectionate manner in which he received Lord Wellesley on his return from India; and to add, that the marquess was one of his oldest and dearest friends,—as this is really the fact? for, whenever I complained about the *fools*, he used to say, 'Have patience, Wellesley is coming home; and in him you will have all the talent and spirit you can desire.'

The same letter, by-the-by, bears a touching testimony of the love of Pitt ("the Pilot who weathered the storm") to Canning (who sang that song in his praise). Of him Lady Hester writes, "It may be fairly said, Mr. Pitt loved him as his own child; for when he first introduced him to me, he said, 'you must love him like a brother:'" and "I am sure," she adds, in a kindred spirit, "I am sure I have obeyed."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Pickwick Papers, by Boz; No. VI. (London, Chapman and Hall).—We are again induced to pay a compliment to our merry contemporary, to whom we feel indebted for a monthly laugh, most refreshing to us in dull times, and not the less welcome at this moment when we have just returned from the British Association. We hope Boz will stick to Mr. Weller, "Boots," whose facetious character he is working out very humorously, ex. gr.

" Person to person, Sam," said Sam, epigrammatically. " Does the person want me, Sam?" inquired Mr. Pickwick. " He wants you parlorier; and no one else ill do, as the Devil's private secretary said, ven he fethched away Doctor Faustus," replied Mr. Weller.

Sam and his master are called on a mission to Bury St. Edmunds, and the following droll dialogue ensues:—

" Delightful prospect, Sam," said Mr. Pickwick. " Beats the chimbley pots, Sir," replied Mr. Weller, touching his hat. " I suppose you have hardly seen anything but chiminey-pots, and bricks and mortar, all your life, Sam," said Mr. Pickwick, smiling. " I worn't always a boots, Sir," said Mr. Weller, with a shake of the head. " I was a vaginer's boy, once." " When was that?" inquired Mr. Pickwick. " When I vas first pitched neck and crop into the world, to play at leap-frog with its

troubles," replied Sam. " I vas a carrier's boy at startin'; then a vaginer's, then a helper, then a boots. Now I'm a gen'l'm'n's servant. I shall be a gen'l'm'n myself one of these days, perhaps, with a pipe in my mouth, and a summer-house in the back garden. Who knows? I shouldn't be surprised for once. You are quite a philosopher, Sir," said Mr. Pickwick to Mr. Weller. " My father's touch in that line, now. If my mother-in-law blows him up, he whistles. She flies in a passion, and breaks his pipe; he steps out and gets another. Then she screams very loud, and falls into sterics; and he smokes very comfortably 'till she comes to agin. That's philosophy, Sir, an' it is?" " A very good substitute for it, at all events," replied Mr. Pickwick, laughing. " It must have been of great service to you in the course of your rambling life, Sam." " Service, Sir!" exclaimed Sam, " you may say that. After I run away from the carrier, and afore I took up with the vaginer, I had unfurnished lodgin's for a fortnight." " Unfurnished lodgings?" said Mr. Pickwick. " Yes—the dry arches of Waterloo Bridge. Fine sleeping-place—withn ten minutes' walk of all the public offices—only if there is any objection to it, is that the situation's rather too airy. I saw some queer sights there. An old woman did, said Pickwick, with Mr. Weller, "as 'ud penetrate your benevolent heart, and come out on the other side. You don't see the reg'lar wagnants there; trust 'em, they know better than that. Young beggars, male and female, as has'n't made a rise in their profession, takes up their quarters there sometimes; but it's generally the worn out, starving, houseless creatures as rolls themselves up in the dark corners o' them lone-some places—poor creaturs as isn't up to the twopenny rope." " And pray, Sam, what is the twopenny rope?" inquired Mr. Pickwick. " The twopenny rope, Sir," replied Mr. Weller, " is just a cheap armoni house, vere the beds is twopenny a-night." " What do they call a bed a rope for?" said Mr. Pickwick. " Bless your innocence, Sir, that aint it," replied Sam. " Ven the lady and gen'l'm'n as keeps the hot-eat first began business, they used to make a rope for the beds, but this woldn't do at all, so the wolden instead of taking up a moderate width o' sleep, the lodger used to lie there half the day. So now they has two ropes, 'bout six foot apart, and three from the floor, which goes right down the room; and the beds are made of slips of coarse sacking, stretched across 'em." " Well," said Mr. Pickwick. " Well," said Mr. Weller, " the advantage o' the plan's hobjives. At six o'clock every mornin', they lets go the ropes at one end, and down falls all the lodgers." "Consequence is, that being thoroughly waked, they get up very quietly, and walk away!"

This we consider to be good and original writing; and Boz has only to go on as he is going, to establish a high and peculiar character as the able draughtsman of low and characteristic life.

Grammaire Francaise-Allemagne. 8vo. Pp. 316. 4me edit. (London, et Roland). *Cours de la Grammaire en Francaise et en Allemagne*. 8vo. Pp. 432. 2me edit. (Same Publisher). Works adopted by the University of France, and by his Excellency the Minister of War, for schools in the French colonies, and in the Kingdom of Prussia. These works offer such an advantage to those who devote themselves to the study of German and French literature, that a competent knowledge of these languages might be acquired even without the aid of a master. The most distinguished philologists of the Continent have, we learn, highly approved of them; and their advance through succeeding editions, shews the estimation in which they are justly held. We cordially recommend them to our English students. The shot is double-headed, French and German, and well calculated to make a strong impression where it hits.

Cousin Kate, or the Punishment of Pride; a Tale. By Mrs. Catherine Grace Godwin, Author of the "Wanderer's Legacy," the "Reproving Angel," &c. (London, Parker).—It is pleasing to see the possessor of such distinguished penmanship condone his authorship of herself in the construction of a simple but interesting prose story, calculated to operate beneficially on the character of the youthful portion of her sex. If "History is philosophy teaching by example," so, when well-conducted, is fictitious narrative. The incidents of "Cousin Kate" are happily imagined; and the tale is as amusing as it is instructive.

The History of Scotland. Sir Walter Scott's Tales of a Grandfather. 2 vols. 12mo. (Edinburgh, Cadell).—Mr. Cadell has done well in reprinting this in a neat, separate, and cheap form, with a map prefixed, even after the prodigious run of the earlier copies. It must ever continue to be a desirable book for the youth of Scotland in particular, though not confined to them, but valued by all young lovers of historical information.

Sacred Classics, No. XXX. *A Continuation of Horne's Commentary on the Psalms*.—With this we observe the editor's claim their "excellent and well-conducted design. They have supplied a valuable contribution to the religious world; and we rejoice to observe that they contemplate a second series at no distant date.

Progress of Russia in the East, with a Map. 8vo. (London; Murray).—This pamphlet displays in vivid colours the prodigious progress of the Russian empire during the last hundred years, and sounds the tocsin of alarm at its present mighty position. There can be no question of the wonderful increase of territory and power; but whether they threaten so entirely to overthrow the balance of Europe, and especially to affect the interests of Great Britain, as the writer contends they do, it is not for a

" Literary" journal to determine. As a view of the system of a nation, with growing influence on the general political system of the civilised world, it is a striking performance.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE EUPHRATES EXPEDITION.

By the arrival of H. M. S. Spitfire, further accounts have been received of the expedition under Col. Chesney, via Malta, August 17th; from which we rejoice to learn that the wrecked steamer, the Tigris, has been recovered from the waves of the "Great River." She was found with her keel upwards a few days after the calamitous accident, of which we published all the particulars in the *Literary Gazette*. The Tigris, it was found, had suffered no material damage; and the latest intelligence from Col. Chesney contains the grateful assurance that the expedition was proceeding auspiciously—all well.

A letter from M. Fontanier, dated Bussora, June 12th, and mentioned in the daily newspapers, that Col. Chesney, with the expedition under his command, was expected there towards the end of the month.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

SIXTH MEETING: BRISTOL.

(In continuation.)

We are this week inclined to afford our readers a little repose from the details of science, and give them a shorter dose of the Proceedings at Bristol than we have done during the last fortnight. Indeed, after having noticed the most prominent features of the meeting, we can, without loss, afford to take the rest at an easier pace.

Section (A). Wednesday.

The business was commenced by Mr. W. Snow Harris, who read a paper *On some Phenomena of Electrical Repulsion*. The author endeavours to shew in this paper, that, from the disturbing force of electrical induction, the indication of electricities, operating by repulsion, are often anomalous and irregular, and do not, under all circumstances, indicate the quantity of electricity with which the repelling bodies, either one or both of them, are charged: he determined the nature of the cases in which the disturbing influences of induction may be supposed to arise. Mr. Harris regretted that little or nothing had been done in statical electricity since the experiments of Coulomb, fifty years ago; with which it seemed that the philosophers, both of France and England, had tacitly agreed to rest satisfied. Dr. Hare, Professor Whewell, Professor Strevelli, and Professor Ritchie, entered into a discussion of the subject, which, however, led to no practical conclusion; and the parties differed very materially from each other in their opinions upon several of the facts and points at issue.

Professor Challis next read his *Supplementary Report on the Mathematical Theory of Elastic Fluids*; giving an account of the application of mathematics to problems in the equilibrium and motions of fluids, which had not been touched upon in the author's two previous reports at Oxford and Edinburgh.

In this paper the Professor took a view of the constitution of the atmosphere, and of the propagation of sound, as affected in its velocity by the action of heat. He noticed a law proposed by the late Mr. Atkins of Newcastle, with which he was inclined to agree, viz. that the decrements of temperature in ascending were equal, in arithmetical progression, for increments of height. On the second head, he compared the pulses of the air generated by heat to the vibrations of water; and thus accounted for

the manner in which heat affected the transmission of sounds.

Professor Strevelli, *On the Interpretation of the Doubtful Sign in certain Algebraic Formulae*, stated, that he had some years since been led to see the importance of a correct interpretation of the doubtful sign, in certain formulae, in algebraic geometry, by observing that, in the transformation of co-ordinates, it was requisite sometimes to use the positive sign for a perpendicular upon a plane, and sometimes the negative sign in a manner which to him appeared to admit of no infallible rule to guide the choice. This induced him to consider the origin or meaning of the doubtful sign; and he found that, in such cases, the doubtful sign of the perpendicular upon a line or plane gives, by its equation from a point given by its co-ordinates, the perpendicular in one position of the given line being assumed as a position: if you cause the line to revolve one-half round in the plane of the axes of co-ordinates, when it arrives at its new position the same equation will again belong to it, but the law of continuity will now compel you to use the negative sign for the same perpendicular from the same point.

Sir W. Hamilton denied the accuracy of Professor Strevelli's explanation, and Professor Peacock agreed with him.

Abstract of Sir D. Brewster's Communication on a Method of Rendering Visible very Faint Lines in the Spectrum.—This method consisted in viewing the spectrum through a homogeneous cylinder of glass held between the eye and the eye-piece of the telescope, so as to be perpendicular to the direction of the lines. The effect of this species of refraction is, as it were, to smooth the edges of the lines and make them more distinct. The author stated that he used also hollow cylinders of glass, containing fluids of different colours and refractive powers; and that he had thus been able to observe lines in the spectrum which had escaped the notice of Fraunhofer.

Professor McCullagh, a very young personage to display such deep and extensive scientific attainments, communicated his observations *On the Laws of Double Refraction in the Crystals of Quartz*. After justly complimenting Sir D. Brewster for his discoveries in optics, and his admirable researches into the phenomena presented by these crystals, the learned professor went on to shew, that a simple mathematical theory could combine all the different experiments connected with the subject, and made, at home and abroad, by Arago, Biot, Airy, &c., and satisfactorily explain the doctrine of double refraction and the action upon polarised light. Sir D. Brewster spoke of this theory as a very important advance in the science.

Achromatic Object-glass, with a Concave Lens of Rock Salt.—As this is an "object" of much interest to science, and as the grant of 80*s*. has just been renewed by the Association (see last *Lit. Gaz.* p. 568, col. 3) towards endeavours to bring it to perfection, we take leave, as we did in the case of Mr. Fox's valuable experiment on the formation of mineral lodes (*Lit. Gaz.* p. 563, cols. 2, 3), to revert to our first brief notice a fortnight ago (p. 547, col. 2), and now state the substance of Sir D. Brewster's report more distinctly. Sir David said, "he had no written report to present, and that he had not made application to the treasurer for any part of the fund devoted to this purpose. He had obtained, however, through the kindness of Dr. Traill, some very large specimens of rock-salt from the Cheshire mines, which appeared

to be so pure and homogeneous, that he was sanguine in the expectation of obtaining from them a lens of considerable size. He stated also, that the delay in executing the object-glass had arisen principally from the difficulty of finding an optician sufficiently near himself to have that frequent communication with him which he considered necessary to the successful execution of the work."

As the same distinguished authority made some remarks on Professor Powell's paper on Dispersive Powers, or refractive indices (analysed in *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1023), we cannot find a fitter place for their insertion than here, when treating of a matter so nearly connected with the subject. Sir David Brewster began by remarking, that the difficulty of obtaining good prisms of solid bodies for shewing the fixed lines of the spectrum, to which Mr. P. had referred, might be avoided in various ways. One of these consisted in stopping out, by means of China ink, all the bad parts of the prism, and using only the good parts; and, by working with as small angles as possible, and making the light pass through the thinnest parts of the prism. In cases where the prism would not shew the lines, he suggested the use of a solution of the triple oxalate of chromium and potash, which gave a distinct black band near the line B in the red rays. Sir David described also a new method of measuring dispersive powers, or refractive indices of fixed points in the spectrum, which had never before been suggested. It consisted in throwing over a spectrum, in which no fixed lines could be seen, a series of parallel bands of periodical colours, produced either by common or polarised light. If, for example, we take a thin plate of mica, which gives 60 orders of colours; then, if we measure the distance between the 50th and the 60th, or rather the angular deviation of the 50th and 60th, in spectra of different kinds, we shall obtain the same results as if there were fixed lines in each spectrum. Sir David suggested to Mr. Powell the propriety of measuring the angle of the prism when in the same position which it occupied during the observations, in order to insure that the angle was measured in the same plane in which the refraction was measured. As Mr. Powell had stated that his indices were accurate only to the third decimal, Sir David urged the advantage that would arise if he could measure the angles of deviation with as great accuracy as Fraunhofer; otherwise his results would, some time or other, be superseded by more accurate ones. In reference to Mr. Powell's request, that mineralogists would furnish him

* It was in 1819 that Sir D. Brewster published a paper on the Action of Crystallised Surfaces upon Light, in which he proved that the force of double refraction extended within the sphere of ordinary reflexion, and modified, in a remarkable manner, the value of the latter force. His experiments were, therefore, made by weakening the reflecting force as much as possible, so as to allow the interior force to act almost uncontrollable. The remarkable results which were thus obtained were inexplicable in any theory of light; but Prof. MacCullagh of Dublin found that some of them could be explained, and were calculated, by modifying Fresnel's theory, as far as to consider the vibrations of the rays parallel to the plane of polarisation. With the view of obtaining the precise nature of the phenomenon, Sir D. Brewster studied the subject, and was led to results entirely incompatible with theory. He was stopped, however, in his researches by the difficulty of obtaining crystals of calcareous spar with good natural forces; and he stated that, in this emergency, he applied to the British Museum, the trustees of which informed him that it was out of their power to give the smallest fragment out of the Museum; but that any experiments could be made within its walls. This was the occasion mentioned in our last No.; when, at "the distance of above 500 miles from the metropolis," Sir David wrote, "I thus learned that the waters of science, as dispensed by the British Parliament, could only, like the beverage of Englishmen, be drunk on the premises."

with good crystals of minerals of a high refractive power, such as chromate of lead, Sir D. Brewster stated, that he had examined the refractive and dispersive power of this singular body, and found it to exceed that of all other substances. He stated that specimens of such minerals should be furnished out of the rich collections of the British Museum; but that, since the trustees were prohibited (as he himself had learned from application to them) from giving the smallest and most useless fragment out of the Museum, he conceived that it would be an object worthy of the British Association to use its influence in removing this great impediment to the progress of science.

Mr. Addams made a communication on the interference of sound, promising to explain the nature of the subject more fully at a future meeting. He then proceeded to make some pleasing experiments with a tuning-fork and a small glass tube, one end of which was closed. When the fork was held over the latter, the air propagated into it produced a sound which increased or diminished according to the distance between them. With two tubes, one placed horizontally, the other perpendicularly, a curious phenomenon was observed: when the tuning-fork was put in vibration in a certain position between the two unclosed ends of the tubes, no effect was observed; but, when this position was changed, or the mouth of one of the tubes closed, a very audible sound was produced. With a tube of fourteen inches long, open at either end, tones were only obtained by stopping a small hole in the centre; but on inserting into this a glass tube of three inches in length, the effect was reversed, the sound being only heard when the glass was unclosed; upon increasing this small tube to seven inches, being half the length of the larger one, no sound was produced. Mr. Addams said he would not attempt to explain the cause of these phenomena, but leave it to Professor Wheatstone, and other abler hands; we have, however, to regret, that though Professor Wheatstone attended this meeting, he either took no opportunity, or none was afforded him, to bring forward any remarks on any of the interesting inquiries which, it is well known to the scientific world, engross his attention, and always so much to the benefit of science.

Chemistry. Section (B).

Mr. Babbage on Tuesday exhibited a thermometer, recently discovered in Italy, and supposed to be one of those originally manufactured for the Società del Cimento. It appeared to be filled with alcohol. The bulb was spherical, and the stem was divided into fifty equal parts, by heads attached to it by fusion at equal distances. These instruments, being graduated without reference to fixed points, do not give indications comparable with those of the modern thermometer. Libri, it was mentioned by Professor Babbage, has attempted the interpretation of their scale; partly by a comparison with each other of ancient and modern meteorological registers, and partly by taking with them the temperatures of certain tepid waters in the Pyrenees, which had been previously examined by the Florentine academicians.

Mineral Waters.—Professor Daubeny read his report on the present state of our knowledge with regard to mineral waters. He first stated the ingredients that had been detected in atmospheric water, and in that of the sea and lakes; and then proceeded to detail the facts of recent observations noted with respect, first, to the temperature, secondly, the ingredients, solid and gaseous; and, thirdly, the medical

properties of particular waters. He then pointed out the source of these ingredients, explained in what manner certain thermal springs obtain the carbonate of soda with which they are impregnated, and the manner of the solution of the silica in water. He stated the quantity of carbonic acid gas, of nitrogen, and of sulphuretted hydrogen, present in various springs; and reverted to the manner in which the effect of snow water, in producing goitre, has been recently accounted for. He concluded by explaining the origin of the heat of springs, and of the gases they emit; attributing the former to certain chemical processes going on in the interior of the earth, by which oxygen is abstracted, and considering the nitrogen as the residuum of the atmospheric air, which had been deprived of its oxygen by the processes alluded to. The thanks of the Section were voted to him.

Iron Ore.—Mr. Muschet exhibited some specimens of iron ore, and explained the common process of smelting, instead of which he proposed to separate the ore by exposing it to the heat of the upper part of the furnace alone, and affording only a small supply of carbon; by which means the process would be accomplished at once in a superior manner, and steel and soft metal obtained. He also exhibited a specimen of iron cement produced by himself, and which he stated possessed greater binding qualities than any other cement. It was not cheaper than Parker's Roman cement, and had, therefore, not come into general use.

Para Cyanogen.—Professor Johnson explained the constitution and properties of para cyanogen, of which he produced a specimen, and made some experiments illustrative of the subject. It is the black residue from procyanide of mercury when submitted to heat, and cyanogen is given off. It is also produced from other substances, and can be converted into a new acid. The thanks of the Section were voted to the professor.

Atmospheric Substances.—Mr. W. West, of Leeds, read a paper on a means of ascertaining the presence and proportion of substances diffused in small quantities through the atmosphere. The author proposed, by means of self-adjusting wind-sails, to draw large measured quantities of atmospheric air through liquids calculated to combine with, and detain the foreign substances expected. Mr. West, also, received the thanks of the Section. A conversation ensued, in which Dr. Dalton repeated his opinion, expressed at former meetings, that the average quantum of carbonic acid in the atmosphere was 1 in 1000 parts; and that it was hardly more in the streets and vicinity of the largest manufacturing towns. Dr. Thomson observed, that rain diminished the proportion of the acid; and differed materially from Dr. Dalton in other respects.

Chemical Nomenclature.—Dr. Hare read a printed letter, addressed by himself to Berzelius, on the Berzelian Nomenclature, with a view to its reformation. The doctor apologised for reading a printed paper, but he apprehended that it had not yet found its way into this country, and he was extremely anxious to bring the subject before the Section, as it was only by the co-operation of scientific men in different parts of the world that the language of science could be reformed. As the usual time of the sitting had expired, the reading of the answer of Berzelius was deferred to the next meeting. The Section then adjourned.

Geology. Section (C).

Saurian Remains.—A communication, drawn up by Dr. Riley and Mr. Stutchbury, "On

certain Saurian Bones recently discovered in the dolomitic conglomerate of Durdham Down, near Bristol," was read.

These remarks were in addition to those read before the Geological Society, some time since, founded on specimens discovered since that period. The authors had previously founded two new genera, containing three species, and now went into the specific detail of another species, its characters being founded upon the form of the teeth: they also pointed out a remarkable form which the spinal canal took, in which, instead of the superior and inferior lines of the canal being upon the same plane, the inferior surface of the canal formed a strong undulating swelling out, and dipping profoundly into the body of each vertebra. They then went into their zoological position, which was found to go far towards the perfecting that group of facts which tend to prove, that the more ancient the strata in which animals are found, so also do the typical forms of the animals differ from each other in a descending scale. The genera established are *Palaeosaurus* and *Thecodontosaurus*, consisting of two species each. The specimens are found in the magnesian conglomerate above the limestone; and from their position and order, it is evident that they must have been deposited without the intervention of violence, or any convulsion in na-

The president, Dr. Buckland, expressed his admiration of the paper, which treated of a most interesting subject, and proceeded to remark on saurian remains, of which there was a beautiful collection on the table, from the museum of the Institution. He also alluded to Mr. Mantel's valuable series of drawings of saurian remains, and incidentally noticed, that undoubted traces remained of animals (the *Iguanodon*, for instance) which must have been of such gigantic size, that, compared with it, the elephant was a mere shrimp. Many who had travelled to Brighton were not, perhaps, aware that they were crushing beneath their chariot wheels the remains of tens of thousands of animals, which, had the travellers lived a hundred thousand years ago, would have turned the tables upon them. There was, at this time, in the College of Surgeons in London, the remains of an animal whose tail was more than a yard in circumference, as was proved by the existing vertebrae.

Mr. Hopkins read a paper, containing theoretical views respecting the geological phenomena of elevation. His principal object was to investigate the effects of an elevating force acting simultaneously at every point of portions of crusts of the globe of considerable superficial extent; and he shewed, that the theoretical inferences deduced from this hypothesis are in striking accordance with the phenomena he had observed in the limestone and coal districts of Derbyshire. He also contended, that in that district the directions of dislocation were not such as could result from the influence of the jointed structure of the rocks as the determining cause of those directions; and further, that the theory he had discussed will account for nearly all the phenomena of mineral veins which can be attributed to mechanical causes, as well as for the formation of systems of artificial lines, of faults, and of other phenomena of elevation.

Professors Sedgwick and Phillips expressed their warm approbation of this paper, and their agreement with its general line of argument.

Zoology and Botany. Section (D).

We have already, in part, anticipated the proceedings of this Section, and shall now

merely copy the Bristol newspapers' report on an article of much and growing interest among our useful improvements.

On Caoutchouc.—Mr. Royle, in visiting the manufactory of the elastic web, from caoutchouc, or India-rubber, which is now applied to a variety of purposes, was informed there was a difficulty in obtaining from South America a sufficient quantity of caoutchouc or India-rubber for the purposes of the manufacture; and was, therefore, led to point out the variety of plants and countries from which the same substances might be obtained. A communication was first read from Mr. Sievier, the sculptor, who has made the principal discoveries in the properties of caoutchouc and the commerce of caoutchouc, by which it appeared, that since the removal of the duty, the importation of it had increased from 10 to 500 tons annually, and is soon expected to be 2 or 3000 tons a-year, from its various uses as articles of dress, and ligatures of every kind, as well as for elastic ropes for the breaching of guns, and bands for driving machinery. The earliest accounts, by Condamine, Aublet, and Priestley, were alluded to; and the South American tree, yielding caoutchouc, was mentioned under the name of *Siphonia elastica*, that of Penang as *Uruch elastica*, and the Indian as *Ficus elastica*, while other plants yield it in Madagascar, Mauritius, Singapore, and China. The natural families of plants to which all those yielding caoutchouc belong, were stated to be *Cichorana*, *Lobeliacea*, *Apocynaea*, *Aesclepiadea*, *Euphorbiacea* and *Unicots*, among which are included *Astocarpea*, all of which have milky juice, and are inconsiderable in tropical countries; there could be little doubt that many other plants of these families might be found to contain this useful substance, as well as those which are already known to do so. Besides these general results, it was observed, that many of the plants of this family were remarkable for the tenacity of their fibre, which fitted them for the purpose of rope-making; and that it was singular that, in the attempts to find substitutes for the mulberry-leaf in feeding the silk-worm, so many of the plants which they prefer, next to the mulberry-leaf, should belong to families which yield caoutchouc—as, the lettuce-leaf of the family of *Achnacea*, in England; the leaf of *Ficus religiosa*, the *Astocarpea*, and the castor-oil plant of the *Euphorbiacea*, in India. Considering that these facts were not likely to be accidental, the author was led to infer that something of the same kind must be contained in the juice of the mulberry, especially as it also belonged to the family of *Astocarpea*; and having requested Mr. Sievier to make the experiment, the author was informed that he was perfectly correct in his indication, as the mulberry juice also contained caoutchouc, whence it was inferred that the silkworm requires some portion of this tenacious substance in its food to enable it to spin its silk; and the fact was communicated as probably of some practical value, as well as of scientific interest. Mr. Hope subsequently remarked, than the dandelion, which had been previously noticed as yielding caoutchouc, was one of those employed as a substitute for feeding the silkworm—a striking instance of the utility of men of different pursuits meeting and discussing subjects of this nature together.

Mr. J. T. Mackay read a report on the Geographical Distribution of Plants in Ireland and the West of Scotland, which he was requested to prepare by the Association last year. He particularised nearly 200 species, and noticed

the difference between those which grew in the two countries. Many Alpine plants are found in Scotland which do not occur in Ireland; while, on the other hand, the humid climate of Ireland, and perhaps their introduction from foreign parts, contribute to the growth in Ireland of plants familiar to Spain and Portugal, and other varieties, which are unknown in Scotland.

Medical Science. Section (E).

The business of the section commenced this morning by reading—1st. A Report of the Dublin Committee appointed by the British Association, on the Motion and Sounds of the Heart, read by Dr. Macartney; 2d. A Report of the London Committee on the same subject, read by Dr. Clandinin.

These reports were so very long, and went into a detail of such a variety of experiments to elucidate the subject, that it would be impracticable, were it desirable, to attempt even an analysis of them.

A letter from Sir D. Brewster to Dr. Roget was read on the Cure of Cataract. In this letter the author explained the views he had been led to form on this subject, in consequence of having observed the action of distilled water on the lens, and suggested methods of removing cataract when taken in its early stages.

Dr. Symonds read a letter from Dr. Spital of Edinburgh, stated that, owing to the death of Professor Turner, and in the absence of one of the members on the Continent, the committee of the Association had not been able to make any report on the same subject, the investigation of which was committed to them at the last meeting of the Association; but that it was their intention to go into the subject.

The third subject introduced was on the Gyration of the Heart, by Mr. A. F. A. Greeves, of whose paper the Bristol journals furnish the following abstract:—

1. Muscular fibres can act as levers without a solid fulcrum, if there be another set of fibres set at an angle, and contracting simultaneously.
2. A hollow organ may be dilated by the construction of such an arrangement of fibres, If, in contracting, they become more parallel to a plane passing longitudinally along the axis of the organ.
3. That there are two spiral, two longitudinal, and one diagonal set of fibres in the heart, interlacing each other.
4. The ventricles gyrate incessantly to and fro upon their axis.
 - a. In systole, or involution, as the left hand pronates.
 - b. In diastole, or evolution, as the left hand supinates.
5. The double spiral curve of the two great arteries forms a compensating and regulating movement, causing
 - i. A diminution of friction;
 - ii. Steadiness and celerity of motion, on the principle of the tilt hammer;
 - iii. An isochronous action, on the principle of the balance-wheel and spring;
 - iv. The progression of the whole heart.
6. That the function of the auricle is to maintain the equilibrium of the venous system.
7. The first sound is produced by the sudden tension and sudden change of gyration, occasioning vibration of the ventricular walls. The second sound is from flapping of sigmoid valves.
8. The impulse is partly caused by the progression, partly by the atmospheric pressure; and chiefly by the left ventricle, first gyrating into the proper position to do so,

carrying the epipex against the thorax with a force equal to the difference of strength between the right and left ventricles.

13. Bruit de soufflet in the heart is the result of increased friction on the pericardium.

The author said he was aware his views on this subject were so very different from those generally entertained, that he appeared, as it were, on his trial before the philosophy of the kingdom, as to whether they were true or erroneous.

Dr. Carson, of Liverpool, after combating some of the propositions of Mr. Greeves, said he saw nothing to induce him to resort to gyration, when dilation seemed so natural. It was evident, on taking the heart of an ox, for instance, that it expanded with great force; and he had heard nothing to induce him to alter his notion of the dilation of the heart.

Dr. Williams said he believed the elasticity of the heart was sufficient to account for the phenomenon of its dilation.

Dr. Carson, at the close of the meeting, and amid considerable hurry, read a paper on Absorption, in which he denied absorption by the veins.

Statistics. Section (F).

A paper by Mr. W. R. Grey, of Manchester, was read, which entered minutely into details respecting that place, and discussed the inaccuracy and inefficiency of parliamentary returns.

Dr. Lardner entered into an able exposition of the statistical and commercial advantages resulting from railroad intercommunication, and endeavoured to establish a formula of general laws for calculations and estimates, on this important subject.

[Apropos.—The attempt to find general laws for every thing is among the chimera of science, and has often led every section of the Association into wild and useless speculations. It is obvious that most of the subjects under investigation are not ripe for their application; and we must acquire greater and more certain knowledge of them before we can prescribe the general laws by which they are governed.]

Mr. John Taylor read a very valuable paper on the mineral productions of Great Britain; and Dr. Yelloly one on spade husbandry in Norfolk. Of the first, we hope to be able to give a more detailed account.

Mechanics. Section (F).

The dispute about Mr. Price's patent paddle-wheels was one of the mistakes of the meeting; where personal interests were allowed to supersede general science, and egregiously consume the most precious hours of time, too short for all the utility which might have been achieved.

At the theatre in the evening, we should further notice Sir John Herschel's letter, of June 13, which arrived very opportunely for the meeting, giving an account of the progress of his observations on the nebulae of that part of the southern hemisphere, sixty or seventy south polar degrees, a description of several of which he had forwarded to Professor Schumacker, for insertion in his "Astronomical Ephemeris." As an instance of the clearness of the sky, it was stated, that in forty-two successive days there were only three in which he could not see Venus in broad daylight; and Sir J. Herschel mentioned that he had written a letter by the light of an eclipse of the moon near the zenith. Under these circumstances, the starry heavens presented a splendour of which the inhabitants of the northern hemisphere can have no conception; the line from Orion to Antinous being remarkably rich and brilliant, appearing as a continuous blaze of

light, with, however, a few patches of the sky destitute of stars. The two Magellanic clouds, major and minor nebulae, and particularly the former, were described as curious objects, differing from other nebulae, apparently in the greater degree of condensation of the stars of which they were composed. He had also observed several planetary nebulae, the appearance of some of which gave him at first the idea that they were real planetary bodies; and it was not until after he had observed one several times that he could divest himself of the idea that he had discovered a new planet, more inclined than Pallas. The writer compared some of the nebulae to star-dust, and spoke in enthusiastic terms of those in Orion and *Argi*. He also mentioned several new double stars.

It is perhaps to be regretted that our countryman should think fit to address his astronomical discoveries and observation to a German professor, and for publication in Germany; as if the science of England and its professors were unworthy of his notice.

In concluding this week's report, we have, with much regret, to announce the death of Dr. Henry, of Manchester, one of the gentlemen appointed secretary for the Liverpool meeting. Whether the excitement of the Bristol week was too much for his nerves, we cannot tell; but, on his return home, he put a period to his existence. Dr. Henry was one of the greatest scientific ornaments of Manchester, and a chemist of the highest reputation; the author of many philosophical papers, and of works of the first authority. His *View of Chemistry*, 8vo. was published in 1799; and his *Epitome*, in 2 vols., has gone through many editions.*

We insert the following reclamation against our statements on the common principle of *Audi alteram partem*; though it is rather curious that it should come from Islington, and not from Bristol direct.

Mr. Editor,—I have read the remarks in your *Gazette* of Saturday last, on the want of hospitality shewn by the Bristolians to the British Association; I believe you have been misled. As to the paucity of the dinner parties during the actual meetings of the Association, they are accounted for by the desire of the Association itself, publicly and privately notified, "that Gentlemen should not make dinner parties during the week of the meeting, in order to encourage the assembling of the members at the ordinary."—See the *Bristol Journal* of the 20th ult. This your reporter must have been well aware of. Maybe the committee hoped that, at the ordinary, members would have allowed the chit chat and twaddle to escape, which appear often to have diverted the proper subjects in the section rooms.

Islington.

Perhaps it may be thought by many that the question of hospitality or inhospitality on these occasions can have little to do with the pursuits of science, but this is a mistake. Unless the meetings are not only made pleasant, but attended by considerable public distinction and éclat, they must fail in their object; and the savans might as well stay at home as perambulate the provinces. Now, in this respect, Bristol has been a great failure; and we have been induced to notice it in its true colours, because the futur years of the Association are

* Our statement respecting Dr. Dalton, in last *Literary Gazette*, on Mr. Exley's paper, conveys, we are informed, an idea directly opposite to that which he expressed. His objections to the theory of volumes was what he entertained before he heard that paper; and he said he did not receive the doctrine, because no reasons had been given to shew why bodies unite in exact volumes till this communication, which he considered as a valuable addition to chemical science. It is important, both on the doctor's account and Mr. Exley's, as well as on ours, to rectify this misapprehension. It appears from this, that the doctor does not say the reason which he could not before find. There is also another material transposition of words in page 563, col. 2, line 34, hydrogen should be oxygen; and in line 38, oxygen should be hydrogen.

likely to be cast on other mercantile places, such as Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle, &c. &c., and it is to be hoped that they will consider Bristol to be an example to be improved upon, not a pattern to be followed.

The excuses set up by our correspondent, we have to observe, are utterly insufficient. The ordinary, for instance, had it been ever so well conducted and attractive—instead of being so much the reverse, that no one who could help it returned to it after the first day—could not accommodate more than between four and five hundred members (besides the nearly six hundred Bristol associates, who naturally pressed into the resorts of the strange lions in order to see them)! what, then, was to become of the whole eight hundred and eighteen who visited Bristol? Were the great majority to go without dinner? or would it have graced the gentry and merchants in and about that city to entertain them? In our opinion, it would. There were among them many of the Dublin gentlemen, whose splendid hospitalities of the preceding year—when they entirely gave up their own enjoyments to promote those of their guests, and in no case even entered into them until they had first taken care of their visitors—deserved another sort of response to that with which they met. There were individuals from Edinburgh, where, though there was a little confusion in the opening of the meeting, there was none in the endless and profuse private hospitalities with which they illustrated the Scottish proverb, “the farther ben the welcomer.” There were the magnates from Cambridge and Oxford, whose liberality, aided by the noble conveniences for allowing full scope to the splendours of magnificent fêtes, rendered the meetings in their palaces glorious for science; and there were other well-deserving strangers, foreign and native, whom it would have done honour to Bristol to honour, but who were overlooked and neglected. Of the conduct of some of those Bristolians who joined the Association, or, at least, procured access to the theatre and other places where its assemblies were held, we shall speak elsewhere; meanwhile we do not retract one syllable of the censure which, as honest public journalists, we have deemed it to be our duty to bestow on the demerits of this treatment.

To the Editor of the *Literary Gazette*.

AEROSTATION.

SIR.—When, some years ago, the newspapers swarmed with advertisements of joint stock companies, all devised for the good of the public, and more for private benefit, I inserted in the *Times* a proposal for penetrating into the interior of Africa by means of an air-balloon company, to be established at Sierra Leone. The discerning editor of that journal was kind enough to insert my advertisement gratuitously; but I was surprised to find that no public-spirited individual came forward to adopt my plan; which was, indeed, the more remarkable, because, in that day of universal zeal for the good of the land, many schemes were most liberally taken up which promised much less benefit than mine with the air-balloons.

But science, sir, since that period, has made rapid strides. Aerostation is far better understood. At the very spot where I am now writing we are expecting a Vauxhall air-balloon to pass over our heads within the next two hours; and all men's eyes are open to the achievements of our intrepid aeronauts.

With no selfish object, then, and with a simple design to promote the welfare and

honour of my country, I have determined once more to bring the subject forward; but with such improvements as the advanced stage of aerostatic knowledge has suggested in the interval.

My original plan was, that an air-balloon of sufficient size, conveying such a number of aerial voyagers as might be deemed expedient, should start from Sierra Leone for the interior of Africa, taking the advantage of an on-shore wind. My present more feasible, though at first sight more difficult, plan is this,—that the balloon should start irrespective of the wind.

Proposals have been made for giving to air-balloons any direction that may be desired, by means of a mechanical contrivance. It appears to me, sir, that all such contrivances are unnecessary; and that, by the aid to be derived from a principle which modern aerostation has verified, if not discovered, air-balloons, without any direction by mechanical means, may be made to go which way we like.

The principle to which I refer is this: that what we call the wind, or, in other words, the current of air next the earth, by no means determines the current in higher regions of the atmosphere; so that, when the wind is foul, we have only to ascend through this under-current to the next above it, or, should that not suit us, to one higher still, till we get precisely the one we want, or at any rate, one so far favourable as to answer our purpose, where the object is not so much to reach a given point, as to get a bird's eye view of regions hitherto unexplored by our own.

To accomplish this, sir, it is evident that we need no mechanical contrivance in the shape of a directing power. The direction will be given by the current of air; only let us get into the right one. All we want is such power over our balloon, as will cause it to ascend or descend at pleasure; so that, out of the various strata of air, we may be able to select that which we prefer. And this power, I conceive, is easily attainable, especially with the increased success of modern science in generating gas.

On these principles I feel a sanguine persuasion that the vast continent of Africa may, and ultimately will, be traversed, and traversed in various directions: the position of mountains, the extent of lakes, and, what is of far more importance than either, the course of navigable rivers penetrating into the interior, determined; descents made *ad libitum*; amicable relations established; commercial treaties formed; unimpeded facilities acquired for reaching the interior, by the modes of locomotion now ordinarily in use; the respect for the British name undiminished; and the fame of British enterprise immeasurably advanced.

Lost in the sublimity of these anticipations, and already suspended vertically, in imagination, high in air above the sands of the great Zahara, or the loftiest ridges of the Mountains of the Moon, I feel all selfish considerations rapidly vanishing from my mental vision; and, therefore, hasten to state that my full aid and talents will be gratuitously at the service of the society to be formed, at a fair remuneration for my time and labour. And though I have ventured to assume (and it is only an assumption) that the requisite current of air may in all cases be found, I trust that this trivial circumstance will not materially diminish the price of the shares.

Yours, &c. A MAN OF SCIENCE.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

SEPT. 5th.—T. F. Stephens, Esq. in the chair.—Various donations of entomological works,

and of insects, were announced, and thanks returned to the donors thereof. Several new members were elected. Various interesting species of insects were exhibited, including several remarkable varieties of *Argynnis paphia*, by Mr. Ashton; and *Philanthus androgynus*, lately found in Epping Forest, by Mr. Shuckard. Mr. Westwood called the attention of the meeting to the ravages committed upon turnips, broccoli, &c. by small species of *Aphis* in the market-gardens round London, and which had swarmed to so great an extent as to be highly injurious. It had not been before noticed, and was called by the gardeners a new kind of blight. Various suggestions were made for its destruction, such as lime-water, tobacco-water, soap-suds, &c. The memoirs read consisted of, 1. Notices of the entomological proceedings at the meeting of the British Association at Bristol, communicated by the Rev. F. W. Hope. 2. Some account of the habits of various lamellicorn beetles, inhabiting the East Indies, in a letter from W. H. Benson, Esq. to the Rev. W. Kirby. Mr. Sells made some observations upon the new species of silk-worm recently introduced into this country, which, from the small quantity of silk produced, and the brittleness of the thread, he considered would not be a serviceable substitute for the old species. Various other communications were made by different members.

FINE ARTS.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Landscape-Historical Illustrations of Scotland and the Waverley Novels. From Drawings by J. M. W. Turner, R.A., &c. &c. Descriptions by the Rev. G. N. Wright. No. I. Fisher, Son, and Co.

PHERAIPS—There never was a writer—nay, we may dismiss all doubtful expression, and say at once—that there never was a writer whose works have received, within so short a period after their production, so many graphic illustrations as the works of Sir Walter Scott. One cause is their extensive popularity; another, the almost inexhaustible variety of subjects which they afford. It is scarcely possible to read a page without finding some passage admirably fitted for pictorial representation. We have already noticed we know not how many such publications. That, the first Number of which lies before us, promises to be an interesting and valuable addition to them; although we dare say it will also realise the statement in the address, that, “as a distinct and original work, illustrative of the most sublime lake and mountain scenery in those regions of romance over which the spirit of the novelist has passed, this landscape-historical volume will be found complete and independent.” The plates in the present Number are, “Mac Murrough's Chaunt,” from a picture by D. McClese; and “Edinburgh March of the Highlanders,” from a drawing by J. M. W. Turner; the former, full of spirit—the latter, of grandeur.

The Professional Practice of Architects, and that of Measuring Surveyors, and reference to Builders, &c. By James Noble, Architect, F.I.B.A. 8vo. pp. 216. Weale. A portion of this work was, some time ago, read by the author at the Institute of British Architects. A great deal of incidental and interesting matter has since been added; and we have no doubt that the volume will afford much valuable information to the younger members of the architectural profession.

Stanfield's Coast Scenery. Parts IX. and X.
Smith, Elder, and Co.

THESE two Parts complete the work, which consists of forty plates. As we have on various occasions during its progress called the attention of our readers to its merits, we will now content ourselves with saying, that it does the highest credit to the draughtsman, the engravers, and the publishers. It is dedicated, by permission, to the king.

The Rev. John Lingard, D.D. LL.D. Painted by James Lonsdale; engraved by Henry Cousins. Manchester, Agnew and Zanetti; London, F. Graves and Co.

WE have seldom seen a portrait with more of intellectual character.

Rome and its surrounding Scenery. Engraved by W. B. Cooke, and eminent Engravers from Drawings by distinguished Artists. No. V. Tilt.

THE Arch of Septimus Severus, in the Roman Forum," "Ponte Salaro, upon which Manlius slew the Gaul," and "The Temple of Vesta, with the great Cascade at Tivoli," are the three subjects of the Fifth Number of Mr. Cooke's highly interesting work. Uniting the beauties of nature and art, they are executed with all the facility and finish which distinguished their precursors.

The Keeper going round his Traps. Painted by C. Hancock; engraved by H. Beckwith. A. Graves.

A SUDDEN change from restless activity to perfect stillness was never more finely represented. It reminds us of the *mer de glace*; the waves of which seem to have been arrested, and fixed in eternal congelation, at the moment of their wildest tumult. We do not know which is the more admirable—the man or the dogs; the skill of the painter, or that of the engraver.

MUSIC.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

New Edition of the Local Melodies of Scotland, united to the Songs of Burns, Ramsay, Scott, and other distinguished Poets. Arranged with Symphonies and Accompaniments for the Pianoforte. By Finlay Dun, and John Thomson. Vol. I. Edinburgh, Paterson and Roy; London, Cramer and Co.

THIRTY-SIX of the most beautiful of the melodies of Scotland are contained in this volume; and we rejoice to say that we have at last a specimen of our national music, of our sweet pastorals and touching love-songs, arranged, as they ought to be, agreeably to their native simplicity and heart-seeking expression. Long, and almost without an exception, have Scottish airs had the misfortune to be arranged and published by persons who, however competent to the task of producing the general cast of modern composition, possessed not the slightest spark of taste or knowledge in regard to the spirit or character of Scots melody. The present work is edited by Scotchmen, well qualified by their musical and literary attainments to do justice to their undertaking. The marks of expression, which appear to have been as carefully as judiciously superadded, are an immense improvement; and will enable the southern vocalist to sing these songs as they should be sung, to have their full effect upon the ear and sense. The accompaniments are simple and elegant; and the whole, a very valuable contribution to that delightful art which charms the soul, and "laps us in Ely-

sium." We can fancy a Sinclair or a Wilson, or in some of them a Phillips, chaunting such melodies; and we know nothing beyond, of the pleasures of harmony, which could be done for our entire gratification.

DRAMA.

DRURY LANE is to be called by its managers, the "National Theatre," because its prices are to be higher than those at Covent Garden; and it is chiefly to give Foreign operas and ballets, sustained by Foreign singers and dancers!

Covent Garden is announced to open on Monday, with *Macbeth*; *Macbeth*, Mr. C. Kemble; and the programme for the season is strong in talent, including Macready, Farren, and others of the most eminent tragic and comic performers.

English Opera.—On Thursday, an opera, called the *Pasha's Bridal*, and, if not founded on, somewhat connected with Byron's *Corsair*, was produced here, and received with great applause. The drama is by Mr. Lemon, and without any especial merit. The music, by Mr. F. Romer, is, on the contrary, very delightful throughout. At present we have not time to particularise the choruses, airs, and concerted pieces (vocal), which have pleased us most; but, when we say there are many of them, and that Miss Shirreff and Messrs. Wilson and Leffler have sufficient opportunities to display their talents to advantage, we have said enough to shew that the *Pasha's Bridal* is a most attractive production.

The St. James's Theatre opens, we hear, under the stage management of Harley; taking measure of whom, Mr. Dickens (Boz) has written a humorous opening drama, in which the manager will make his *début*.

The Adelphi gives high note of preparation; and Yates, with John Reeve and the best of his old forces, and an addition of new and efficient recruits, bids fair to restore Momus to his throne in the Strand.

The Olympic is also sounding a loud note; and Planché, no longer, it seems, tied to Drury, is preparing one of his happy hits for its opening.

Mr. Marston, the performer, has very successfully produced a drama at Oxford, founded on the "Chronicles of the Canongate." The principal characters are, *Elspat*, the Highland widow, her son, *Hamish Bean*, and *Alice*, of the "second sight." The catastrophe is most tragical, and, the *Oxford Herald* states, powerfully affecting.

The Colosseum finishes its evening season to-night, with a brilliant entertainment, combining we know not how many kinds of attraction.

Vauxhall concluded its regular or irregular balloon-season on Wednesday; and on Thursday had a splendid dahlia show, under the direction of the Metropolitan Society of Florists. Yesterday afternoon, the huge balloon, with eight or ten passengers, was appointed to ascend; and, we hope, did so, and returned to earth in safety, though too late to be noticed by us.

VARIETIES.

Cheltenham Literary and Philosophical Institution.—On Tuesday the 30th ultimo, the new rooms, prepared for the reception of this Institution, were opened under very gratifying circumstances. Dr. Conolly, V.P., Captain Kerivan, M.C., and five other gentlemen, received the Bishop of Gloucester at the Plough, and conducted him to the Institution, where

his lordship delivered an appropriate and excellent address. He was followed by Dr. Boisragon, Dr. Conolly, Dr. Crombie, Dr. Ritchie, Dr. Lardner, and other speakers, who moved resolutions required for the occasion; and the proceedings having concluded by half-past four o'clock, the party, fifty-four in number, partook of a capital dinner at the Hotel. The presence of several distinguished members of the British Association, on their way from Bristol, seems to have given great *éclat* to this otherwise interesting ceremony.—*Abridged from Cheltenham Looker On*, No. XXX.

Volti subito.—Under this very appropriate and descriptive name, we have just examined an invention, by Mr. Ramsey (of the General Post Office), which, though patented two or three years ago, has never been brought before the public with the notoriety which so useful and ingenious a contrivance merits. It is a simple and pretty machine, which may either be affixed to the piano-forte, or to the music-stand, for the harp or other instrument; and by the readiest touch of the performer's finger in the former case, or foot in the latter, it turns over the leaves of the music-book in a moment, so as to enable the player to continue the music, without those stops and interruptions which have always been found so personally inconvenient, and so injurious to the effects of melody or harmony. We have not seen any thing so neat and effectual as this *volti subito*; and we are sure that Mr. Ramsey need only make its usefulness generally known to have it adopted wherever there is a musical instrument in request.

Diving Apparatus.—The use of Dean's diving apparatus has recently been curiously productive off Spithead. An iron 42-pounder has been fished up from the Royal George; and from between that vessel and the wreck of the Edgar, two handsome brass pieces, a 42 and an 18-pounder, and also another iron gun, and part of a third of the same material. The latter appear to be of great age (the entire one 14 feet long), constructed of thin iron bars, and loaded with stone shot. They appear to have rested on wooden stocks, and to have moved on slides. The brass canon are of the time of Henry VIII., and weigh, severally, 4377 and 2622 lbs.; the larger bearing the royal arms, with roses and fleurs-de-lis; the smaller the rose only, and inscribed, "Colveryn Bastard."—*Abridged from Naut. Mag.*

Ballooning, &c.—The French *Journal de Chemie Médicale* notices the atmospheric effects of very many ascents. Thus, M. Boussingault and Col. Hall ascended Chimborazo, in 1831, to the height of 19,699 feet, the highest on land, as Humboldt reached 300 feet lower. The barometer fell to 13 inches 8 lines; and the temperature in the shade was 45° of Fahrenheit. Guy Lussac rose 22,900 feet at Paris in a balloon. The atmosphere in South America was readily respirable; while in Europe, on Mount Blanc, Saussure breathed with the utmost difficulty. Mr. Green, the aeronaut, whose large balloon, and small party of eight or ten persons, will, probably, have tried their ascent by this time, has, we believe, been as high as 18,500 feet.

Science in France.—The fourth meeting of the French Scientific Association opens on Monday next, the 11th, at Blois. Several English savans have gone thither.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

We lament to see the statement respecting Captain James Fawckner and the recent lamentable fire at Plymouth, by which he has lost the whole of his property; consequently, we cannot but wish well to the plan for

remedy it in some measure by publishing the narrative of his travels and sufferings on the western coast of Africa.

Dr. Bernays has announced a third edition of his German Exercises; and that he is preparing a new selection from the German poets, under the title of "German Poetry for Beginners," with notes.

In the Press.

Kidd's Practical Instructions in the Art of Angling; containing many novel directions, &c.—Select Portions of Blackstone's Commentaries on the Laws of England, designed as a Class-book for the use of Schools, with an Introduction, &c., by Samuel Warren, Esq.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Lessons for the Heart, for the Improvement of Young Persons, 18mo. 4s. 6d. bd.—Rev. E. Mannerling on Christian Consistency, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Itev. W. Jones's Essay on Covetousness, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—The Act for the Commutation of Tithes, by J. L. Jellico, Esq. 12mo. 2s. 6d.—Legal Outlines, a Course of Lectures, by D. Hoffman of Baltimore, 8vo. 2s.—A Course of Legal Study, by D. Hoffman, 2d edition, 2 vols. 1s. 12s.—Rev. T. Jones on the Revelation of St. John, 12mo. 1s.—Going to Service, by G. F. Graham, 12mo. 2s. 6d. bd.—The Book of Shells, 18mo. 1s. 6d.—Select Orations of Cicero, with Notes, by A. Newland, f.cap. 2s. 6d. cloth.—Traver's Introduction à la Langue Française, 12mo. 3s. bd.—Hansard's Parliamentary Debates, 3d Series, Vol. XXXII, royal 8vo. 8s.—First Latin Exercises, by R. Hall, 12mo. 1s. 6d. bd.—Divinity of Christ, by Rev. W. Burge, 12mo. 2s. 6d.—Extracts from the Religious Works of Bp. Newton, 12mo. 6s.—Glances at Life in City and Suburb, by C. Webley, post 8vo. 10s. 6d.—The Great Teacher, by the Rev. John Harris, 2d edit. post 8vo. 7s. 6d.

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1836.

September.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday.. 1	From 44 to 68	29.73 to 29.83
Friday .. 2	49 .. 67	29.74 .. 29.75
Saturday .. 3	49 .. 64	29.83 .. 29.50
Sunday .. 4	52 .. 67	29.32 .. 29.35
Monday .. 5	50 .. 60	29.42 .. 29.52
Tuesday .. 6	47 .. 59	29.36 .. 29.35
Wednesday .. 7	47 .. 59	29.50 .. 29.69

Prevailing winds S.W. and W. by N., except the 7th. Generally cloudy, with frequent rain; on the afternoon of the 6th thunder and lightning, accompanied by heavy showers.

Rain fallen, 1.25 inch.
Edmonton. CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the London Meteorological Society. August 1836.

Thermometer—Highest	77.00	the 13th.
Lowest	36.30	9th.
Mean	54.5625	
Barometer—Highest	30.05	the 11th.
and 12th.		
Lowest	29.33	23d.
Mean	29.7718	

Number of days of rain, 7.
Quantity of rain, in inches and decimals, 2.4525.
Winds.—North-East—2 East—2 South—27 South—6 South-West—2 West—3 North-West—9 North.
General Observation.—The mean temperature of the month was lower than since 1829, and the extreme of heat much below those in August 1824 and 1825. The quantity of rain, though considerably more than last year, was nearly about the average, and of the whole quantity (2.4525 inches) one inch and 63 hundredths fell on the 23d, which was much more than has fallen on any one day since the 15th of May, 1824, when nearly two inches of rain fell. The barometer, although the maximum has been frequently exceeded, was generally high, and the mean was above any in the same month during the last thirteen years.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

On the first of October the Stamped Edition of the LITERARY GAZETTE will, in consequence of the reduction of duty, be reduced in price. No alteration is made in the two ensuing Numbers which finish the current quarter, as it would cause complexity and confusion in the accounts of the newsagents and publishers of monthly and quarterly parts, without any adequate advantage. Our distant readers may be informed that this new state of things has caused a great stir in periodical publication; a vast number of new papers being announced, and almost every one of them promising "the largest surface" at the "smallest price." It seems as if quantity and not quality henceforward was to be the standard of value; and we have only to say for ourselves, that the *Literary Gazette* will decline that sort of competition.

"Urbani's" sonnet was more fit for private than public perusal; and we forwarded it accordingly.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of No. 2. of Holt's Penny Magazine; and assuredly it is a fair pennyworth of amusing and instructive literary matter.

We are obliged to say no to J. M. C.
"Amiel" received, and intended for notice next week.

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